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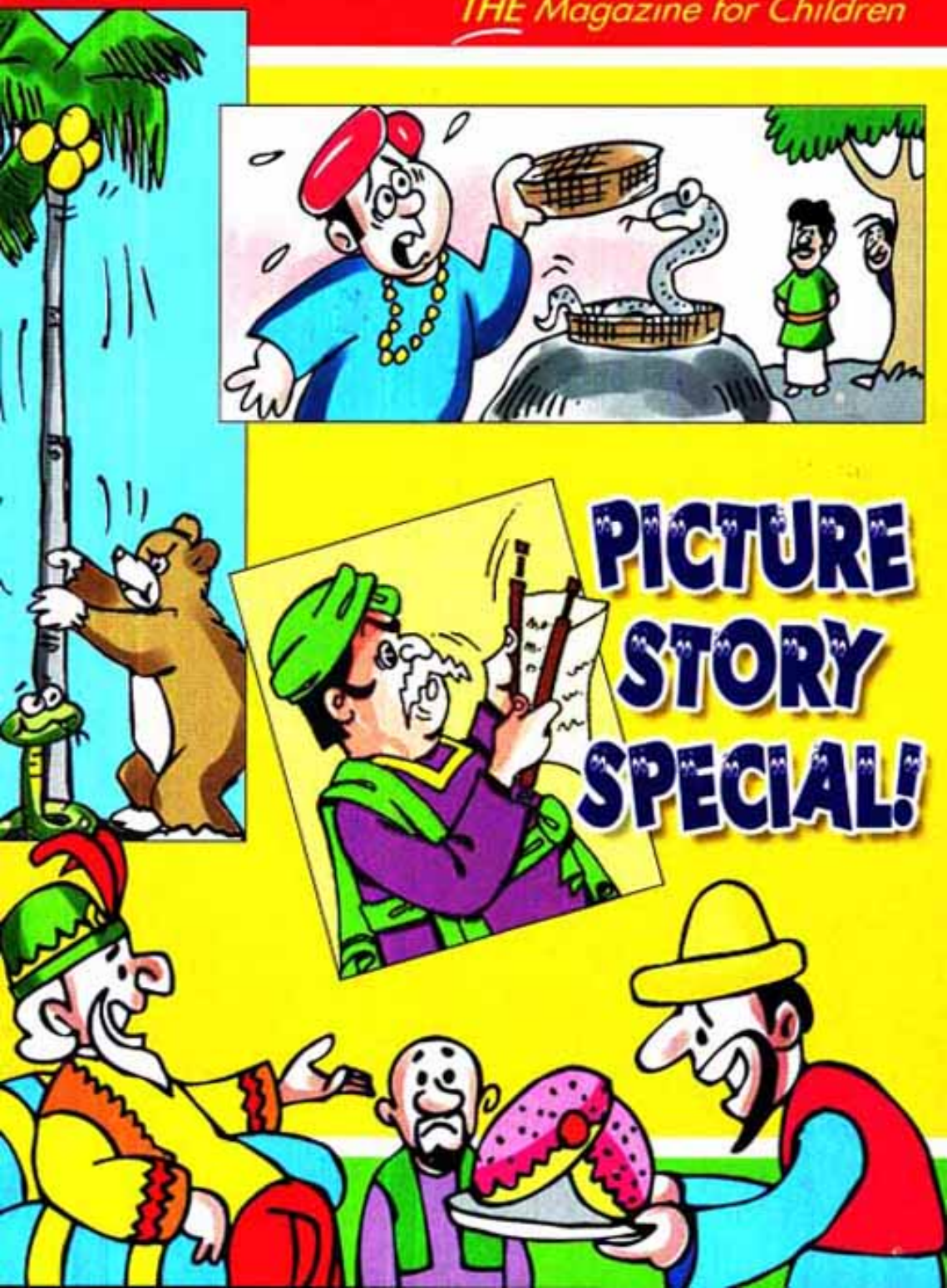
GOKULAM

THE Magazine for Children



PICTURE STORY SPECIAL!

PARLE
POPPINS
Doon Kya?
Ram and Shyam
Bridge The Gap
RAM AND SHYAM ARE ON A SCHOOL TREK. AFTER A FULL DAY OF HIKING THE KIDS ARE RETURNING BACK TO THE CAMP.
WHOA! THIS BRIDGE SURE IS SHAKY
MEANWHILE WATCHING THEM IS KING CREEP...
SURE YOU MANAGED TO CUT THE ROPE?
YES BOSS!
THEN IT'S TIME TO SAY BYE-BYE TO RAM AND SHYAM FOREVER!
JUST AS THE LAST KID GETS OFF THE BRIDGE IT SNAPS LEAVING THE OTHER GROUP STRANDED.
THE SUN'S NEARLY SET. WE CAN'T LEAVE THEM THERE IN THE DARK WHILE WE GO TO GET HELP. THERE ARE WILD ANIMALS IN THE JUNGLE.
THE BOYS KNOW THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE THE KIDS IS TO USE THE DEKATRX. THEY EAT BANANA-FLAVOURED POPPINS.
DOON KYA? STRETCH!
THE BOYS STRETCH THEMSELVES ACROSS TO THE OTHER MOUNTAIN, IN PLACE OF THE BRIDGE.
JUST USE US INSTEAD OF THE BRIDGE. BUT GO SLOWLY AND ONE AT A TIME. AND DON'T LOOK DOWN.
ONE BY ONE THE KIDS CROSS OVER.
SEEING THAT THEIR EVIL PLOT IS FOILED KING CREEP AND HIS HENCHMAN ESCAPE.
YOU FOOL! THIS IS YOUR FAULT.
OW! SORRY BOSS! OW! OW! OW!
MEANWHILE THE LAST KID CROSSES OVER AND THE BOYS COME BACK TO THEIR NORMAL SIZE.
I JUST WISH WE COULD STRETCH THIS POPPINS STICK. WE'D NEVER RUN OUT THEN.

GOKULAM

THE Magazine for Children

June 2010 Vol.XXII, No.12

KALKI GROUP HOUSE of QUALITY

Of all created things the loveliest
And most divine are children.
-William Canton

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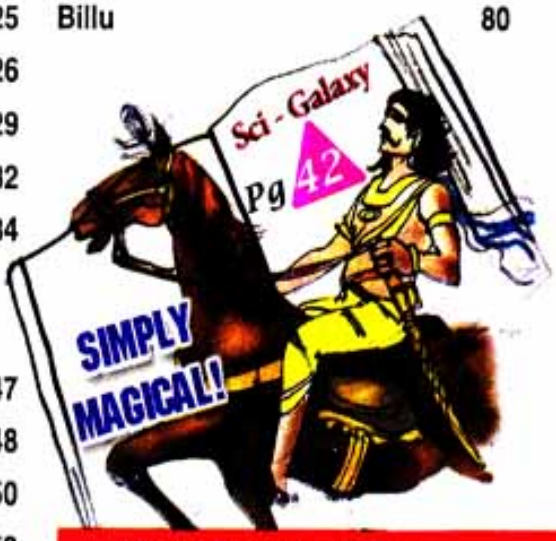

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THE Magazine for Children

Dear Readers,

"Don't postpone for tomorrow that which you can do the day after tomorrow!" said Bob Hope. He was a great American comedian and his witticism was thought provoking.

Schools reopen around first or second week of June and you will be proudly entering the next higher class. But this sense of achievement and joy will last only for a short period. Very soon you will be facing new teachers, new books and a more difficult new syllabus. Everyday new lessons will be covered in all subjects and you will have a tough time keeping pace with the rapid onslaught of lectures and writings on the black board!

It is important not to

Postponing Mind and Expanding Work!

lose out in this race. When you postpone anything for tomorrow, you are the loser. Be alert at class, revise at home, understand and be familiar with each lesson even while it is being taught. Be up-to-date with home work.

"Work expands itself according to the time available for its completion" said Parkinson. He wrote a book called "Parkinson Law" which is full of such witticism. Tests and exams may be far away but don't allow your work to expand till the last day. Do it today and RELAX!

- Editor

Thumbs Up!

One day, as usual I was engaged n the task of getting into an already vercrowded bus. I pushed my way hrough and finally got a foot hold n the steps. I was dangling half nside and half outside the bus when heard the conductor urging people nside the bus to stand closer and nake way for us 'foot boarders'

To my surprise it was not the arsh call of a man but the sweet oice of a lady. I peered inside and he conductor indeed, was a lady!

started observing her losely. She pushed and rodded the people inside the us to make space for those anding on the foot board nd managed to pull us all side. She handled the huge rowd quite easily and issued ckets efficiently. I noticed that she nnounced the names of the bus ops which many men conductors ever did. And when an old lady got , she ensured that she had a place sit. Not once through the whole urney did she swear or shout nnecessarily. I felt that she was ally doing a great job, with much ore zeal and skill than her male counterparts!

After that day, I started observing around me and noticed quite a few women auto drivers, policewomen and post-women. Ofcourse, women have made great strides in almost all fields. But unlike working in banks, hospitals or IT companies, these jobs require a lot more mental and physical strength. These women are on the move constantly and also deal with the general public day in and out…a really tough atmosphere to work in! I feel proud of these women and salute them. A thumbs up for the 'Real Women of India'!

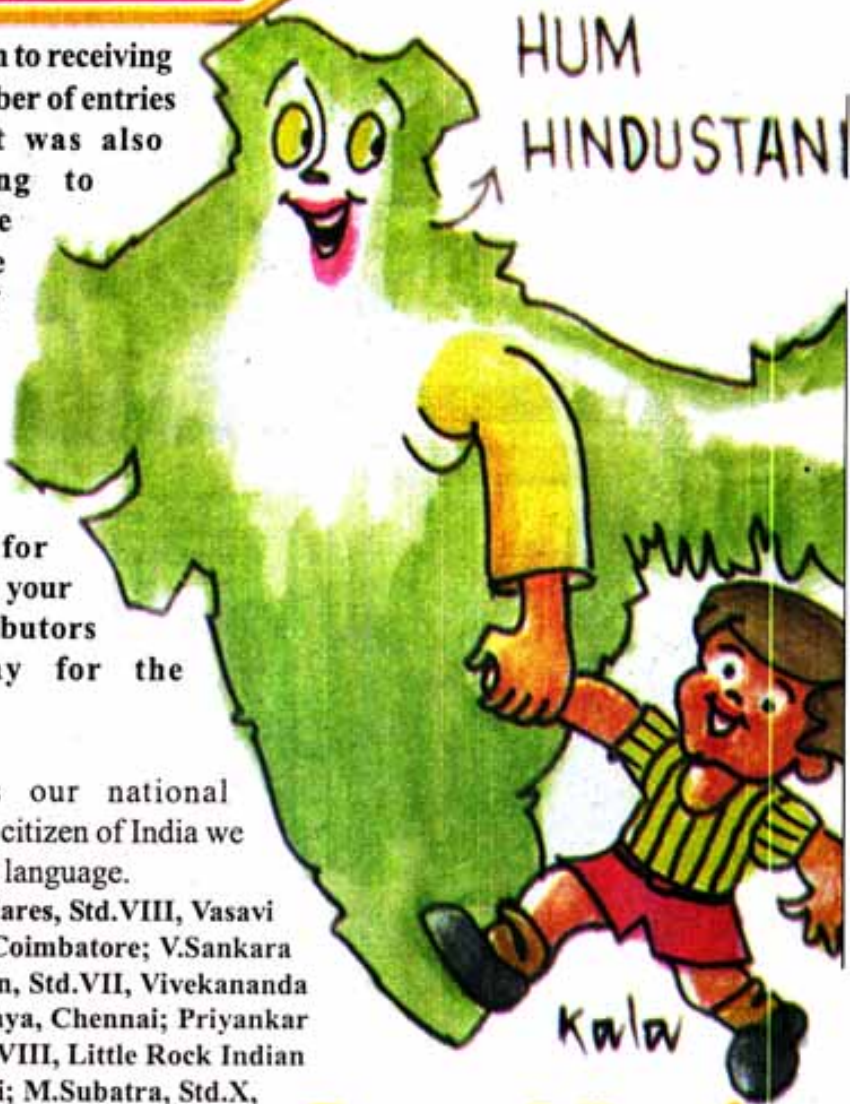
- Aswati Anil Warrier,
1st PUC, MES College,
Bengalooru

DRAMA at SUNSET

Story: Rahul Anand
Std:V, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Coimbatore
Artist: Lalitha

Boss! Let me sleep in peace...
Look at the sunset... Does it mean anything to you?
I think the food was drugged and we are being hijacked. All in the plane including the air hostess are fast asleep!
Time for action. Let us check out the cockpit.
Let me go first, boss!
When they reach the cockpit...
Freeze if you don't want a bullet in your heads...
The detectives grabbed the hijackers' gun...
er a scuffle...
ss shall we throw these lains out of the door..?
You will do no such thing. The law will take over.
How did you know there was trouble, boss?
As soon as I saw the setting sun I knew something was wrong. The sunset was on my right, indicating that we were flying south while the plane from Chennai to Delhi should have been flying North.
You are a genius, boss!

In addition to receiving a record number of entries this time, it was also heartwarming to note that the majority were in favour of learning Hindi. And our advise to those who are against it – just read for yourself what your fellow contributors have to say for the language!



One Nation

Hindi is our national language. As a citizen of India we must know the language.

- S.Nares, Std.VIII, Vasavi Vidyalaya, Coimbatore; V.Sankara Narayan, Std.VII, Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Chennai; Priyankar Kumar, Std.VIII, Little Rock Indian School, Udupi; M.Subatra, Std.X, TVS MHSS, Madurai; T.M.Mithilesh, Std.VII, Fr. Agnel School, Navi Mumbai; N.R.Akshaya Reddy, Std.X, Good Sheperd Convent, Chennai; Anjali Rao, Std.V, The Grove School, Chennai; K.Krishna Prabha, Std.IX, KV, Chennai; Sagar Saish Lawande, Std.IX, ID School, Goa; Vishwajith.P, Std.V, Acts Sec. School, Bengalooru; Abel Thomas, Std.VIII, Gitanjali Devashray, Hyderabad; Neha.P.Deshpande, Std.VIII, Vija Nagar HS, Mumbai; S.Mohamme Sameer, Std.IX, Velammal MHSS Chenna

Hindi would serve as a vital lin between South and North India. Th language will act as a bridge for a

Indians and strengthen relationships between people of various states.

- Krutarth Vinod Dixit, Std.VIII, RH Kapadia New HS, Ahmedabad; Pooja Prabhan, Std.XII, The Frank Anthony Public School, Bengalooru; T.Sreelekha, Std.V, KVAFS, Pune; G.Niranjana, Std.X, Amalorpavam HSS, Puducherry; Sheethal.R.Holla, Std.IX, Jyothy KV, Bengalooru; Yogendra Varma, Std.VI, DPS, Bhilai; K.Karen, Std.XI, Nirmala MHSS, Chidambaram; K.Neeraja, Std.X, KV – 2, Hubli; R.Priya, Std.X, Tagore International School, New Delhi; Akash Johny, Std.VIII, Montfort, Trichy

Hindi is spoken in many northern states of India. People in transferable jobs need to know the language for effective communication. Children would also find it easier to make new friends if there is no language barrier.

- Pragadeesh, Std.XII, St.Mary's HSS, Karaikal; Vaishnavi Rajesh, Std.VI, Amrita Vidhyalayam, Secunderabad;

One Language

Pramit Ganguly, Std.VIII, JH Tarapore School, Jamshedpur; M.Shami Seles, Std.IX, St.Aloysius AIHSS, Chennai; Aakriti.S.Ganesh, Std.VI, BGSIPS, New Delhi

There are 22 scheduled and around 350 unofficial languages in India. So, there must be a common language in our country and Hindi is that language!

- Sruthi Santhosh, Std.VI, KV – Pangode, Thiruvananthapuram

Not just the students but each and every citizen of our country should know our national language!

- G.Monisha Gengashri, Std.IX, PSGR Krishnammal HSS, Coimbatore

If Hindi is known to all, he/she can travel all over the country without facing any language problem. It will also help in promoting territorial

integrity of the country. The government should enact a law to make Hindi compulsory.

- D.Kavya, Std.VII, RK Model School, Chiltoor; A.Vasudharini, Std.IV, St.Joseph of Cluny,

Puducherry; Niveditha Kumar, Std.X, Padma Seshadri, Chennai; J.Padmaprakaash, Std.IX, SSM Lakshmi Ammal MHSS, Namakkal; J.Sriram, Std.XII, KV-IIT, Chennai; V.Rajeswari, Std.X, Srimathi Sundaravalli Memorial School, Chennai; Shreya.S, Std.VIII, KV-1, Kalpakkam

What is the use of singing patriotic songs like *'Saare Jahaan Se'* and *'Vande Mataram'* without knowing their meaning?

- Nidhi Shetty, Std.IX, MTM School, Udupi

Hindi should be made compulsory as second or third language. All children should possess atleast a basic knowledge of the language.

- Balaji Venkatesan, Std.VI, Model Eng. School, Mumbai; C.Yogeshwaran, Std.IX, GRT Mahalakshmi School, Chennai; B.N.Nethravathi, Std.XII, St.Anne's College, Bengalooru

Hindi is the *lingua franca* of India and within the borders of the nation, it should serve as the primary mode of communication.

- Sneha.S, Std.IX, Avila Convent MHSS, Coimbatore

Even Gandhiji wanted every Indian to learn this beautiful language!

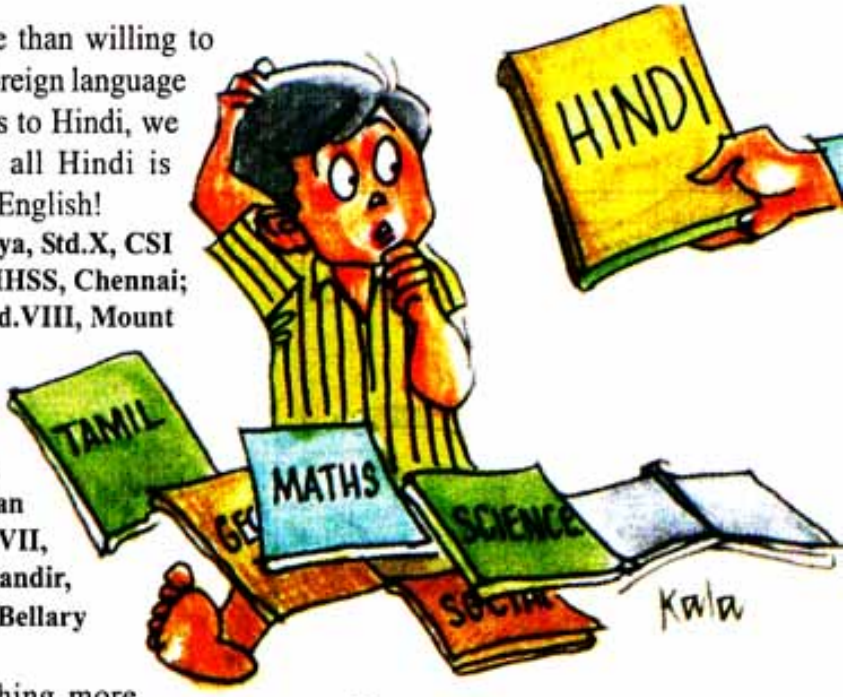
- R.Deepalakshmi, Std.VII, Sri Ramakrishna MHSS, Coimbatore; G.P.Mahitha, Std.X, KV-Ashok Nagar, Chennai

Many political parties in the South opposed Hindi and this resulted in loss of job opportunities to many. Why should we children be deprived of learning this extremely useful language?

- K.Nirmal Kumar, Std.V AFAC Eng. School, Mumbai; M.Jayadaarini, Std.XI GRT Mahalakshmi School Chennai; Sowmya Ramakrishnan Std.IX, Chinmaya Vidyalaya Bengalooru; J.Vijayalakshmi, Std.VII Devi MHSS, Palani; Varun.M, Std.IX Capitol Public School, Bengalooru K.R.Jaishree, Std.VIII Akchara Bala Bhavan, Salem ShriGanesh Bollakpalli, Std.VI Academic International Primary School, Dar-es-Salaam Tanzania; G.R.Bhavesh Std.VII, SJT Surana Jain Vidhyalaya, Chennai; G.Bala Mira, Std.IX, Alpha MHSS Chennai

We are more than willing to earn English, a foreign language but when it comes to Hindi, we hy away! After all Hindi is nore Indian than English!

- D.Sandhya, Std.X, CSI Jessie Moses MHSS, Chennai; Mona Lisa, Std.VIII, Mount Assisi School, Bhagalpur; Saakshi Jain, Std.VII, Raipur; Aashik Narayan Mukhasale, Std.VII, Jindal Vidya Mandir, Bellary



There is nothing more hameful than being an Indian and not nowing our national language. What o we lose by learning it?

- Abinash Nandan Jenna, Std.X, AECS, Ganjam; R.Pradeep, Std.XI, Sunbeam MHSS, Vellore; Sangeeta Rani Kadraka, Std.X, AECS, Ganjam; Aniket Basu, Std.X, AECS, Ganjam; Mohit Jain, Std.V, Raipur; Anuj Jain, Std.IV, Chhattisgarh; S.Ranjith, Std.IX, St. John's Sr. Sec. School, Chennai; Lakshmi Ajay Kumar, Std.X, St.Arnold's HS, Mumbai

Learning Hindi will increase the burden of students. If taught forcefully, it will lead to hatred of the subject.

- Lavanya, Std.VIII, St.Arnold's HS, Mumbai; Priyanka Priyadarshini Roy, Std.X, AECS, Ganjam; B.Ramya, Std.VIII, Mysore West Lions Sevaniketan School, Mysore; S.Kailash, JVSSS, Chennai; S.Venkataraman, Std.VII, Hindu Sr. Sec. School, Chennai

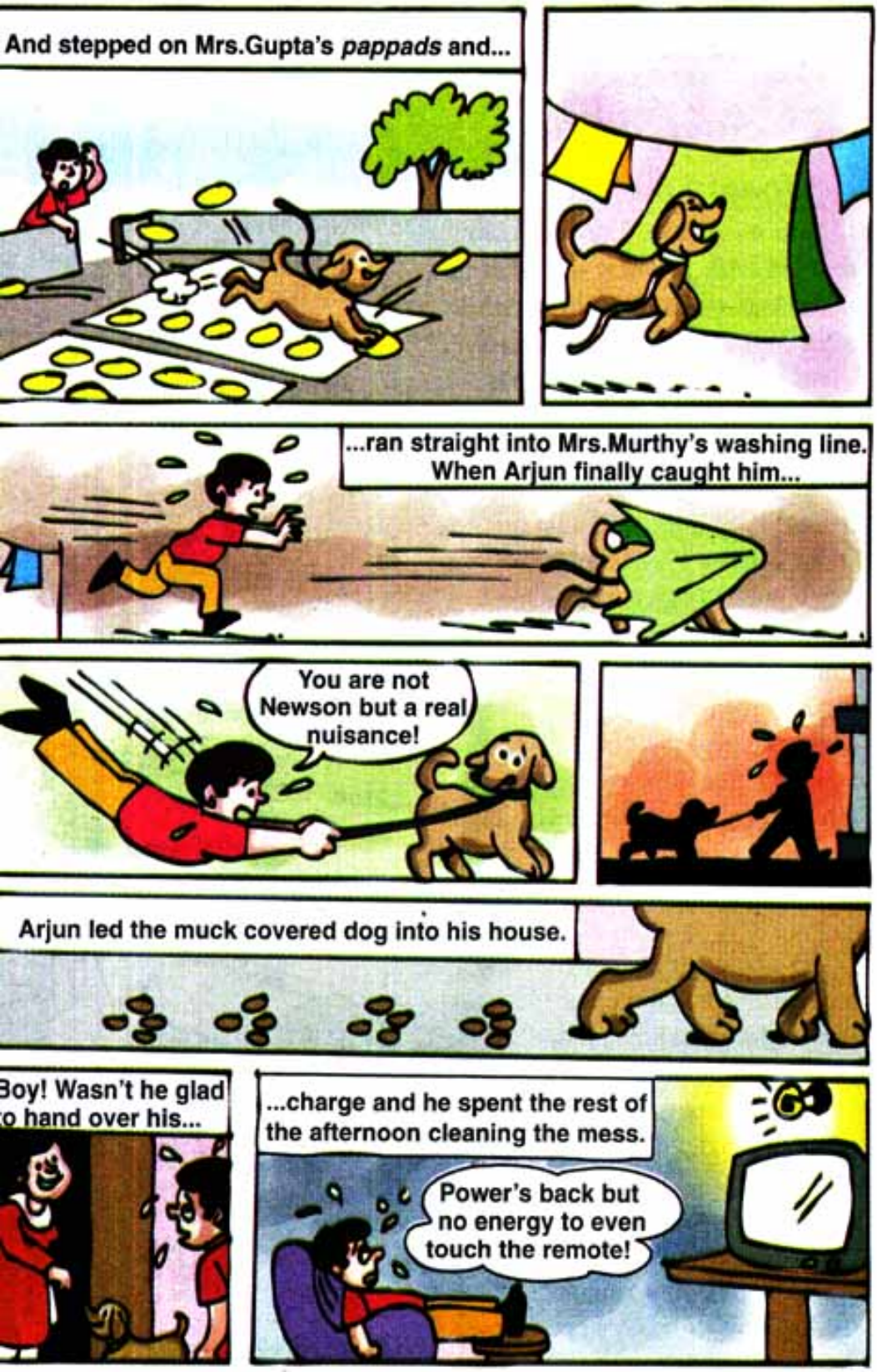
QUESTION FOR THE MONTH:

Is it right for children to demand new school bags, boxes, etc, at the beginning of every academic year?

Send us your views by 25.06.2010. Each published entry will receive a prize of Rs. 25/-. Remember to include details of your age, class, school and residential address. Those of you who are non- residents of India should send us a local (Indian) address too. You can send entries by post or by e.mail (gokulam@kalkiweekly.com)

DOGGY AFTERNOON

Story: V.Vaishnavi, Std V, Sri Kumaran's Children's Home, Bengalooru. Artist: Pilla


And stepped on Mrs.Gupta's *pappads* and...
...ran straight into Mrs.Murthy's washing line. When Arjun finally caught him...
You are not Newson but a real nuisance!
Arjun led the muck covered dog into his house.
Boy! Wasn't he glad to hand over his...
...charge and he spent the rest of the afternoon cleaning the mess.
Power's back but no energy to even touch the remote!

SERIAL STORY

Chapter Five

Story so far :

Some of the students are thrilled with the new addition to their class, the stylish Shiela, while Mau and Padma take an instant dislike to her. The students of Misty Heights residential school have their first interaction with their Hindi, French and Art teachers. Shiela is an instant hit with both the French and Art teacher but is a real dud when it comes to sports. The homesick Padma gets up in the middle of the night and hears somebody weeping. She also sees the flickering lights in the forest once again. Now read on..

Waking up at five in the morning was quite easy for Padmalakshmi. But Mau was no early riser and kept wriggling in her bed when her friend tried to wake her up. Finally Padma managed to wake up Mau and they got ready and headed to the playground.

As the girls were nearing the ground they spotted Harish coming out of the jungle.

"What could he be doing there so early in the morning?" Padma wondered aloud.

"Maybe he had gone for a morning walk," Mau pointed out.

"Hello girls!" Harish approached them. He seemed to be in a jolly mood. "Going for your morning practice? By the way, what are you both training for?"

"Me for football and Padma for hockey," Mau answered.

Heights

Geeta Canpadee

"Ha..ha..I don't think Padma will fit into these robust games." And he turned to his childhood friend, "What will happen if those thick glasses of yours fall off when you are on field? Maybe you should simply stick to indoor games like carrom and chess."

"I would prefer it if you mind your own business and not bother about my glasses or games," Padma fumed.

"I am doing exactly that," the senior boy snorted. "Somehow, I'm beginning to feel that you might just not fit into Misty Heights."

"Oh yeah, how well have you done for yourself over here!" Padma blew her top. "I don't see you participating in any of the cultural activities or sports. And what were you doing in that forest?"

"Well, I love to be in the company of plants and trees, any problem there?" he threw back breezily.

"But why the forbidden forest?" Padma lashed again. "Unless you have something creepy going on there.."

This was an unexpected dart and it seemed to hit the target. Harish was taken aback for a second. However he quickly changed his expression and laughed out aloud.

"Secret.. and in that jungle.. haha.. except for bamboos and banyan trees there's nothing in there. Anyway don't worry, I've taken permission from my teacher," he added before walking away.

"That was very nasty of him," Mau commented after Harish left. "I don't understand why he tends to pick on you. But I would very much like to know which teacher allowed Harish to enter the jungle? Then, maybe even we could go there someday."

"Don't go by what Harish says," Padma voiced her doubts. "He has become a big liar and is definitely not the same boy he was at my old school."

"Oh, come on Paddy, cheer up, Mau said light-heartedly, putting her arms across her friend's shoulders. "I think I can spot Sid, Sad and Bad."

The three musketeers were doing their warm up run when the girls arrived. Rodrigues quickly assigned them to their respective groups-Sid, Sad and Mau for football; Badri and Padma for hockey.

"At first you will be playing for your individual houses," he announced. "And at the end of the term the best among you will be selected to represent Misty Heights in the interschool sports meet."

And by the time the youngsters were through with their training they were totally exhausted.

"Phew! Do we have to go through this every morning?" Mau gasped for breath as they practically ran back to their respective hostels to freshen up before hurrying down for their breakfast and classes.

"Don't worry, you'll get used to it soon," Sadil assured her.

"I don't mind an extra hour of football training.." Sid added, "..if it's going to save me from that 'acid's' class."

"Gosh, we have his class today, the very first period," Sad pointed out. "Hope he doesn't target us once again."

Before Sid could reply they came face to face with Madam Totou and Miss Piklington.

"Bonjour, bonjour," the French teacher beamed while Miss Piklington screened the group to see if she could spot her 'Juliet'.

"Girls, if you meet Sheila, tell her

:o come to the auditorium during nterval," she said. "And you boys :oo can come over and audition for he role of Romeo."

"Talk of the devil and there she s....," Mau whispered in distaste as he girls turned to head towards the East Tower. They spotted Singapore Sheila sashaying down the corridor in their direction. Not only lid she sport a tinge of make-up and ipstick, she had also piled her hair on top of her head with a few strands hanging stylishly from the sides.

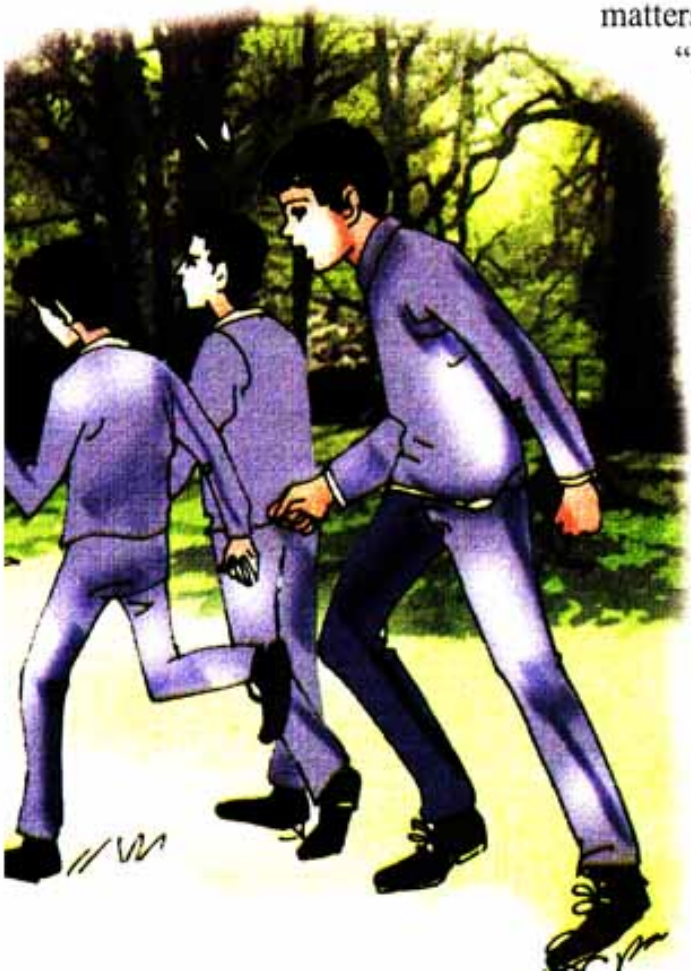
"Look at her guts," Mau whispered under her breath.

"She must be trying to fit into Juliet's shoes already," Padma muttered.

However Sheila didn't stop by to acknowledge the girls, nor did she pay heed to the message from Miss Piklington. Instead she gave Padma such a spiteful stare that the poor girl felt very uncomfortable.

"God, she seems to despise me," Padma sort of choked. "She still hasn't forgiven me for the wrestling comment I passed on her."

"You know something Paddy, you get worked up for all unnecessary matters," Mau tried to reason.



"People like Harish and Sheila are not worth a second thought. Now forget them and let's get going."

However, being the sensitive sort, Padma was hurt by the way both Harish and Sheila had treated her that day. And as she brooded over this, she failed to pay attention to Professor Ramakanth's lecture. He instantly pounced on her, and when asked to explain the difference between a

chemical bond and a chemical compound, she stared blankly at him. The angry teacher suggested she pack her bags and return to her town. Padma went red in the face with shame and from the corner of her eyes could spot Sheila smile slyly and that hurt her even more. However, the rest of the class came to her aid once the period was over.

"Thank your stars that he is done with you," Sadil said sportively. "God knows who's next in his firing line."

"I suppose it could be me," Mau added. "He kept looking in my direction quite too often."

"Come on, who the hell will know what a chemica bond is?" Sid joked. "The only bon I know is JAMES BOND."

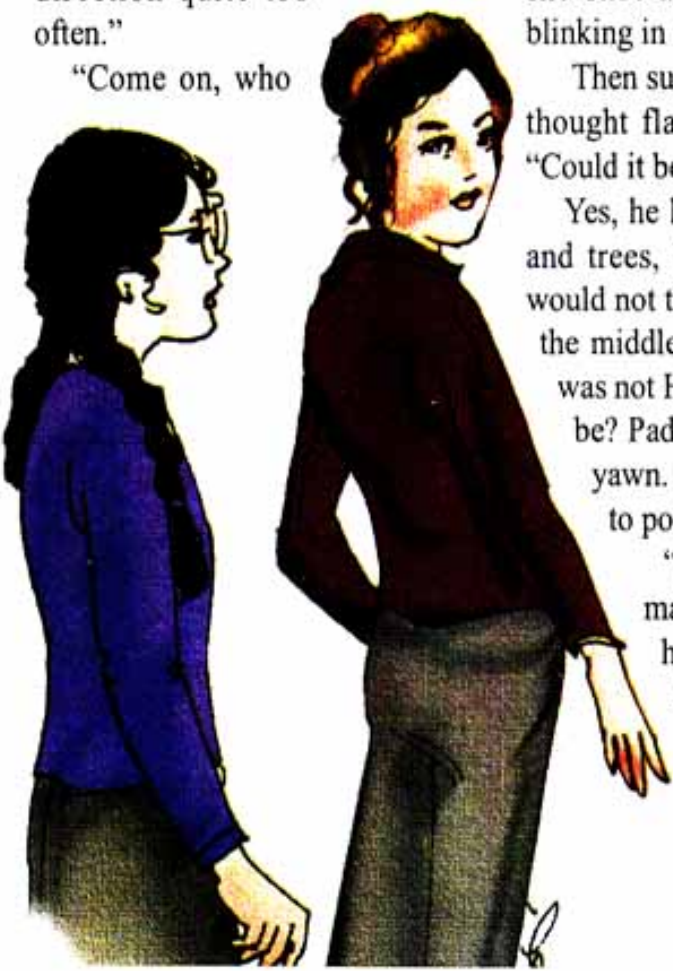
This cheered up the mood of th class though Padma was still upse the way things were turning out t be. She definitely didn't want to en up making mistakes and enemies She had come to Misty Heights wit high expectations but now...

That night, in her room, sh made a resolution that she would tr to improve her behavior, be good t everyone and make more friends Just as she was about to go to be she once again spotted the light blinking in the distant jungle

Then suddenly out of the blue thought flashed across her mind "Could it be Harish?"

Yes, he had said he liked plant and trees, but definitely even h would not think of venturing out i the middle of the night. And if i was not Harish, who else could i be? Padma tried to stifle a lon yawn. She was too exhauste to ponder any further.

"Shall delve into th matter tomorrow," she tol herself and dropped t sleep even before he head hit the pillow.



(To be continued)

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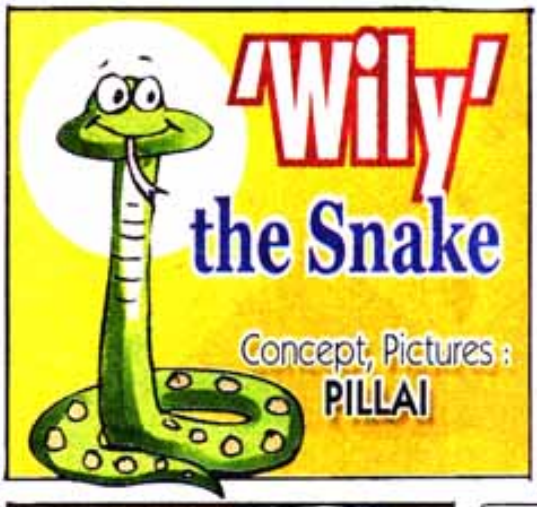
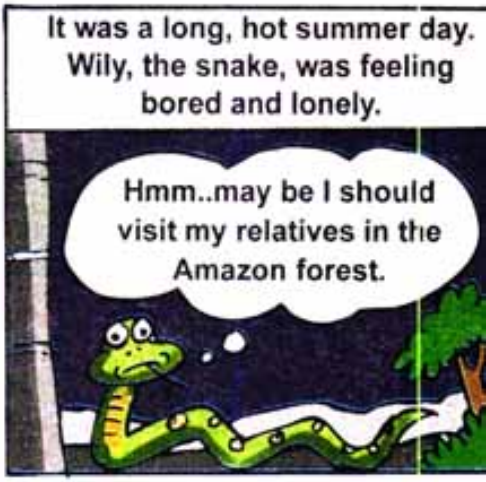

'Wily'
the Snake
Concept, Pictures :
PILLAI

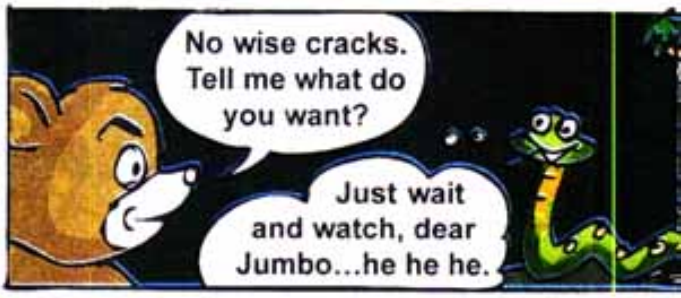

It was a long, hot summer day. Wily, the snake, was feeling bored and lonely.
Hmm..may be I should visit my relatives in the Amazon forest.

Or instead call them over here. There is no one whom I can have fun with..

Aah..there's Jumbo, the bear. Let me have some fun at his expense.

Hey, Jumbo! Where are you off to in such a hurry?

I have some very important work to do. What did you call me for? Tell me soon, I am in a tearing hurry.
I suppose President Obama is awaiting your arrival.


No wise cracks. Tell me what do you want?
Just wait and watch, dear Jumbo...he he he.

Now, I am going to climb this tall coconut tree.
Very soon Wily reached the top of the tree.
I think he is upto something. I must be careful.
You can't reach out to touch a coconut like I am doing. Willing to bet?
Are you trying to challenge me? Grr... just wait..
As Jumbo shook the tree with all his might, a ripe coconut came tumbling down...
Aaah..that hurt.
I may not be able to reach out to the coconuts but can make them reach me. Care for more..?
Er..no.. please. Did you not say that you had very important work to do..?

Holidays are Here!!

Holidays are fun days
We spend time in numerous ways
Playing and watching T.V. for instance
But definitely keeping books at a distance
Come what may, I would say
Fun becomes the order of the day
Of course, you will miss your class mates
So talk on the phone and chat on the net
Let dear father and mother go crazy
It is perfectly alright to be lazy!!

- Fida, Std.X, KV-2, Chennai

Roadside Eatables

Once I went to a *chat bhandar*
And zoom beside me went a car
And it released a suffocating
smoke
Which enveloped my chilled coke!

Happily I drank the polluted coke
And listened to my mother's rebuk
But I neither bothered nor cared
And now on the bed I lay scared!

The doctor advised me not to have
Eatables on the road or I would be sa

Winged Wonders!

One of nature's beautiful things
Are those lovable creatures with wings,
Soaring high above the ground
They make delightful sound,
Enjoying the ride in air
They make others stare,
With a gift of two wings
They fly around and sing,
Man has tried all his wits
To learn the bird's gifted tricks,
But he could only make machines
and planes
Which are a poor second to our
feathered friends!

- Ishwar Venugopal, Std.IX,
KV, Kannur

She Kissed the Skies!

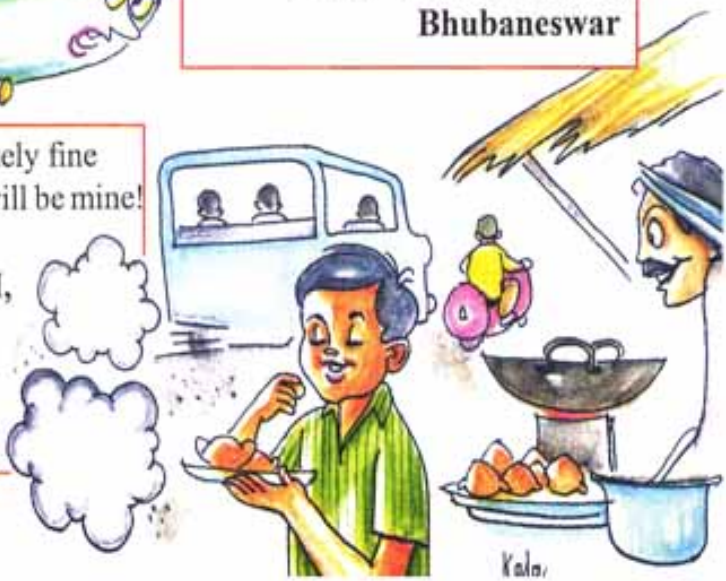
She was our dear lady light
Who flew to a great height;
From a small hamlet in India
She zoomed herself in
Columbia.

She dreamt to kiss the moon
And hardwork placed her near
it soon;
She is India's pride in space
We all salute her with grace.

- Rachna Nair, Std.X,
KV-2, CRPF Campus,
Bhubaneswar

Once a month is absolutely fine
Otherwise all diseases will be mine!

-Ananya Chandra.C.H,
Std.VIII, Bhashyam
Public School,
Hyderabad



1. When an ant needs to eat out it goes to a…

2. What do you call an ant which inspects financial records?

- Sadhvika Ramji,
Std.IX, Crea Children's
Academy MHSS,
Trichy

3. Why did the boy eat his homework?

4. How do honest people brush their teeth?

5. What happens when you tell an egg a joke?

6. What did Adam say to Eve on December 24th?

- Priyankar Kumar, Std.VIII
Little Rock Indian School
Brahmavar, Karnataka

7. Which year do kangaroos like?

8. Which country is always in a hurry?

9. It weighs very little yet we cannot hold it..

10. Name the musical instrument which our ears love.

11. Which is the best key to have?

12. No one can ever answer this question..

- B.N.Shivraj, Std.VIII
Navodaya Vidya Nikethana
School, Bengalooru

Answers : 1) Restaur'ant' 2) Account'ant' 3) Because his teacher told him that it was a piece of cake! 4) With truthbrush and truthpaste 5) It cracks up! 6) Happy Christmas Eve! 7) Leap Year 8) Russia 9) Our breath 10) Ear Drum 11) Lucky 12) 'Are you asleep?'

Answers : 1.Kite 2.Butterfly 3.Tortoise 4.Window 5.Tree

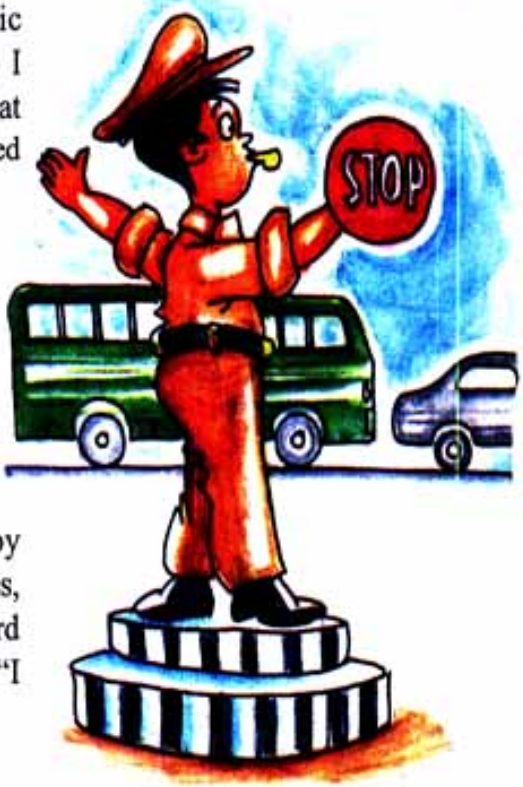
FIND THE DIFFERENCES

One day my mother informed me that a drawing competition had been organized by UN to commemorate World Migratory Bird Day. The topic was 'Barriers to Migration'. At first I did not understand anything about the topic at all, so with my mother's help I searched on the internet. I learnt that long distance migratory birds faced innumerable threats from man made structures. The different barriers for the birds were huge buildings, wind mills, cut trees, barbed wires, telephone poles, electric wires, planes, etc. Having learnt about the topic, I drew a picture which had a bird in the middle completely surrounded by tall buildings, wind mills, cut trees, smoke from factories; and the bird was crying aloud pathetically, "I have lost my way home". After a few months I received information from UNEP/AEWA,Germany, that I had won the first place in my category. I was really thrilled. I received a book on migratory birds and their habitat, and a pair of binoculars. My mother was also very happy. I understood that birds were important too and that humans should not disturb Nature or harm animal life for selfish purposes.

- Khushi Suraj, Std.IV,
St.Michaels Academy, Chennai

TRAFFIC POLICE DAY

I am a member of a civic organization called CMCA



BARRIERS to MIGRATION!

(Children's Movement for Civic Awareness). As a part of it's campaign we celebrated the traffic police day on January 21st. I went to the Ashok Nagar Traffic Control Station, Bengalooru, with my friends, to learn about the flow of traffic. I was amazed that a mere 2000 constables controlled about 35 lakhs vehicles in the city. Bearing the vagaries of weather, be it rain, sun or cold, these sincere men worked hard day and night to ensure smooth and steady flow of traffic. We thanked the constables and also took photographs with them. I also learnt that a majority of the accidents occurred due to the general public not following the rules and regulations set by the traffic department.

- Varun.M, Std.VIII,
Capitol Public School,
Bengalooru

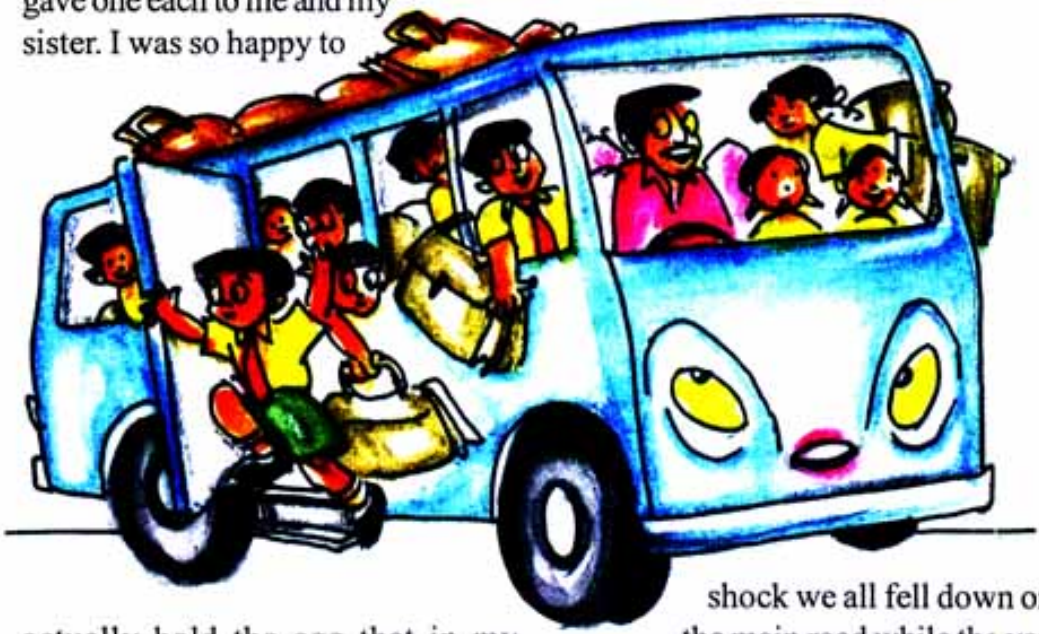
UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENT

Our maid spotted two pigeon eggs in a nest in the tree near our balcony. When she informed me about this, I rushed to the balcony along with my sister. I was really thrilled to see the nest and the two shiny eggs. I thought they looked really cute and wanted to hold them. The mother bird was not to be seen and our maid took out the eggs and gave one each to me and my sister. I was so happy to actually hold the egg that in my excitement I dropped it. We were all shocked to see the egg smashed to pulp. I was really upset and ashamed of myself. I decided never to touch any eggs from that day.

- Padmavathy.K.K, Std.IV,
National Public School,
Bengalooru

UNFORGETTABLE FALL

This happened to me when I was in class six and studying in a different school. We were all going to the school in our van. The van was jam packed with students and three of us including me did not get seats to sit. We were standing near the van door. One of my friends was leaning against the door. I warned him about it but he paid no heed. Suddenly the door opened and to my shock we all fell down on the main road while the van was in motion. Luckily no other vehicle was passing by and we all managed to escape with minor injuries. But we had learnt a lesson for life!



- R.Mrithunjay, Std.IX,
National Public School,
Chennai

GRAY Matter!

Dear Doctor, I am 9+ and weigh 27 kgs. My mother says that I am very thin. For lunch I eat rice and two helpings of the side dish. But my mother forces me to eat beyond my capacity. Even my doctor says that I am under weight. Am I really under weight? If so, what should I do?

- S.Sneha, Std.V, Maharishi Vidya Mandir, Chennai

As you have not mentioned your height, it is not possible to tell whether you are underweight or not. However, assuming that you are of average height, I do agree that your weight is on the lower side. Do not force yourself to eat more as every individual's capacity is different. Rather have a good diet rich in protein and vegetables. Also understand that genes play a major role in determining your body weight. Exercise regularly for at least 30 minutes a day. Irrespective of whether you are thin or fat, exercises will keep you healthy and fit. My personal advice to you is not to bother too much about your weight as long as you do not feel weak or tired while performing your routine activities.

I have very dry skin, even in summer. I love to use cosmetics, soaps and different creams available in the market. But they don't suit my skin as it is very sensitive. What should I use to improve my skin condition?

- S.Sree Deekshana, Std.VIII, Bell MHSS, Tirunelveli

Dr.**N.A.Jayavelan** as told to **G.S.S.**

Do not use cosmetics unnecessarily at your age. Wash your skin frequently with cold water. You may use mild soap twice a day. Splashing the skin frequently with water would remove the excess oil.

Skin is a part of our body, and intake of more fruits and vegetables wil improve our general healtl condition including that of the skin Exercising regularly will also impar a glow to the skin.

My friends told me that eating fish helps the brain to functior better and improves our IQ. Is i true?

- V.Deepak Ramanan
Std.VIII, TVS MHSS, Madura

No research has conclusively proved that consuming fish woulc improve human intelligence. If your friends are right, then all Eskimos must be genius as they eat the maximum amount of fish. But this is not true. However, if you are ir the habit of eating fish you may continue with it as it contains ar essential oil – the omega 3 fatty acic which is good for the heart.

I am a 12 year old girl. I recently noticed that a single strana of my hair has turned gray. I am extremely worried on account oj this. What is the reason for my hair graying at this age and how do I cure this. Also, what should I do to prevent further graying of my hair? Please help me!

(name with-held on request)

Do not worry. A single stray

strand of hair turning gray will not affect other hairs in any way. To a major extent graying depends on genes. Apply oil regularly. Eat lots of greens, especially curry leaves. Maintain a clean and dandruff free scalp. Wear a hat or scarf while out in the sun. However, if graying increases, consult your doctor. He will find out the root cause and solve your problem. Just relax and stay cool as tension is one major cause of gray hair

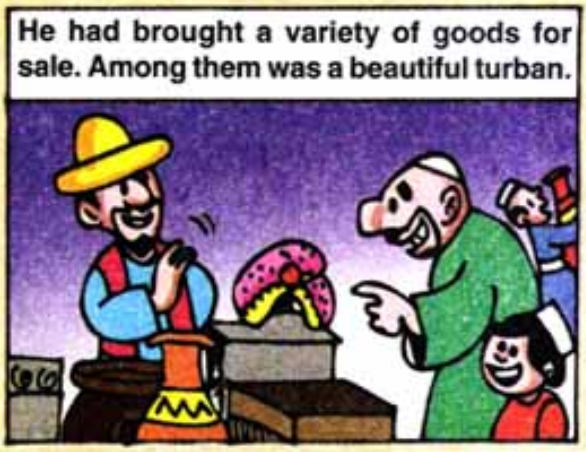
I took my annual exams in the month of March. I used to study for long durations during the exams but felt very weak and tired throughout the period. What should I do/ eat to be more energetic during exam time?

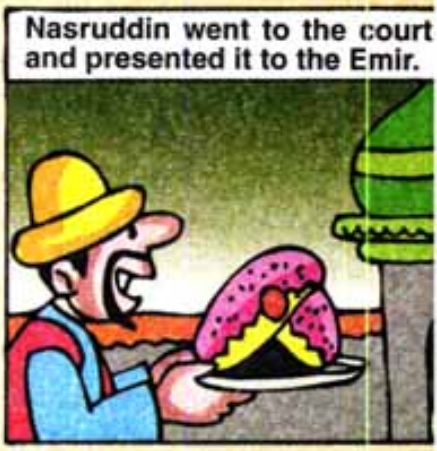
- Puranjan Dev, Std.VI, Buxi Jagabandhu Eng. Medium School, Bhubaneshwar

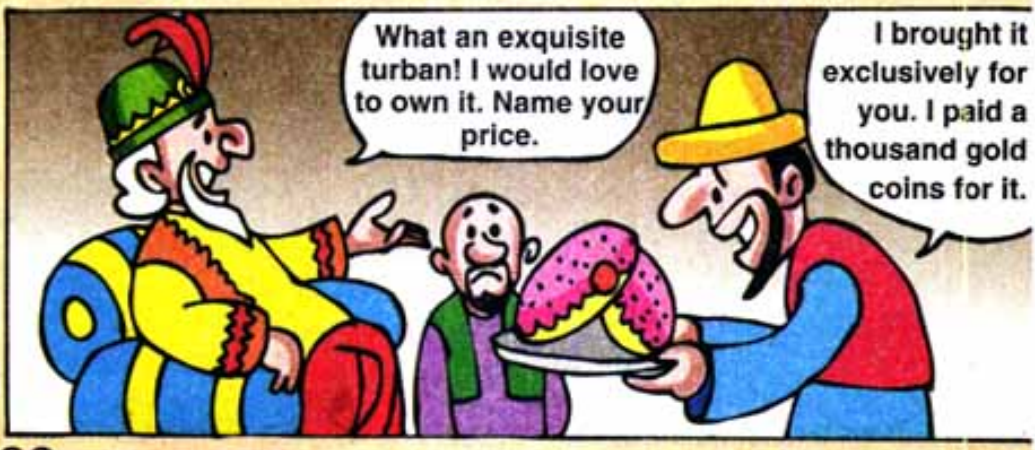
To be energetic during examination time you should concentrate on two factors. One, your food should have more carbohydrates because they contain a lot of energy. Also, do not take heavy meals. Eat small amounts frequently. Second, eight hours of sleep a day is a must. Sleeping should not be considered as a waste of time. Adequate duration has to be given for it so that the brain can refresh itself and retain and recall all that has been fed inside. Many children sleep for fewer hours during exam time which is absolutely wrong. The body feels tired when overworked. The best idea would be to study your portions daily so that you need not over strain during exam time.

THE INVALUABLE TURBAN

Story: Kavitha.G, Std: XI, St.Joseph of Cluny, Puducherry. Artist: Pillai







A nobleman of the court felt that the price was too much.

Huzoor, this fellow is lying. How can a mere turban cost a thousand gold coins?

The king was perplexed. On one hand he really liked the turban but he also felt that his advisor was right.

Why did you pay such a large amount for this turban? I don't think it is worth that much.

I paid so much because I knew that there was only one king in this whole world who was fit to wear it. A king with a great taste and a majestic personality! So I bought it for you, *huzoor*.

The Emir was flattered. Smiling broadly he gave Nasruddin the thousand coins and bought the turban.

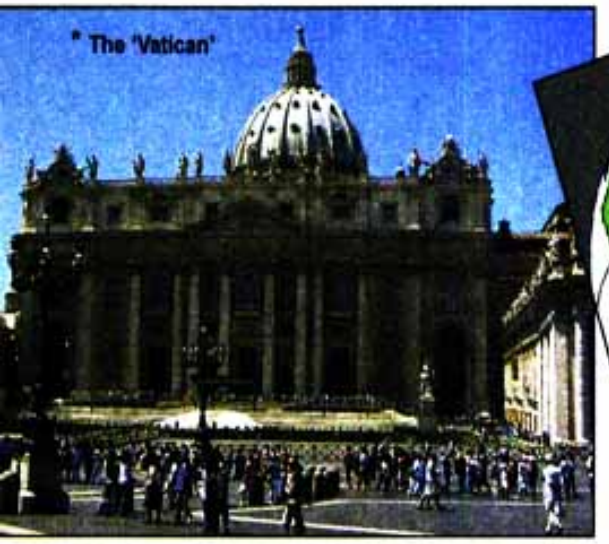
Calling aside the courtier, Nasruddin told him..

You know the true value of turbans, my friend, but I know the weaknesses of great men!

About 200 million years ago all the continents were connected. They formed a supercontinent called Pangea. Slowly, this Pangea broke up and the land mass separated to form different continents as we know them today. In another 200 million years, the earth may look completely different once again as the continents are constantly moving. This movement is called Continental Drift.

- A.Sanjnah, Std.VII, Kola Saraswathy Vaishnav Sr. Sec. School, Chennai

* Electric Tooth brush



* The 'Vatican'

* 'United World' - Pangea

The Grand Anicut is the oldest functioning irrigation system in the world. It was built by the Chola king Karikalan in the 2nd Century BC on river Kaveri. This dam is a massive structure of unhewn stone, 1,080 ft long and 60 ft wide.

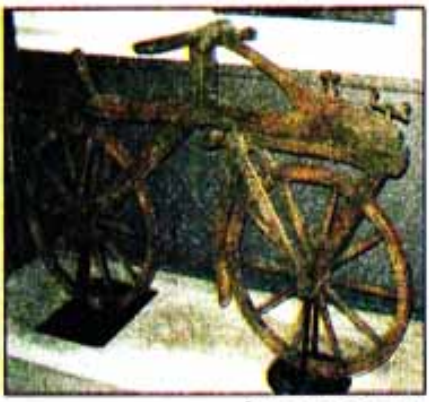
- R.Sankar Ganesh, Std.X, OVC HSS, Manamadurai

The first electric toothbrush was invented in Switzerland by

Dr.Philippe Guy Woog in 1954.

- Gowreesh Prabhu, Std.VII, Sri Ramakrishna Hr. Primary School, Mangalore

* Grand Anicut



* Wooden Bi-cycle

* Loading Bay

* 'Spoon' Museum

Supercontinent 'PANGEA'

The first bi-cycle was invented in 1817 by Baron von Drais. It was made of wood and had no pedals! A rider had to push his / her feet against the ground to make the cycle go forward.

There is a museum entirely devoted to spoons in New Jersey and houses a collection of over 5400 varieties from all over the world!

- Amulya.L, Std.VII, Carmel School, Bengalooru

The space shuttle loading bay is big enough to hold a whale!

- Indhara.M.Shetty, Std.VII, Lourdes School, Mangalore

The five smallest countries of the world are the Vatican City, Monaco, Nauru, Tuvalu and San Marino! The Vatican, located within Rome, is just 0.44 sq km in area!

- Rushab R.Bhandari, Std.X, Rotary HS, Ranebennur

Our son **Tabreez Ahamed** celebrates his 14th birthday on the 10th of June. May god bless him with a long life.

Best Wishes from
Basheer, Tasriya, Tabsheer, Tabassum and Tabih

• Subhasri Ranjani

Naushad celebrates his 17th birthday on the 29th of June. Many more happy returns of the day.

Best Wishes from
Aboobecker, Haseena, Faisal, Thajudin, Sohala and Shamas

My sister **Subhasri Ranjani** is celebrating her 7th birthday on 20th of June. We wish her best of luck.

Best Wishes from
grandparents, parents, Uma, Annie and Ammu

• Idhant

My brother **Idhant** celebrates his 6th birthday on the 16th of June. I wish him a very happy birthday.

Best Wishes from
parents, grandparents and sister

• Sukriti

My dear sister **Sukriti** celebrates her 12th birthday on 26th of June. May god bless her on this special occasion.

Best Wishes from
parents, grandparents and brother

Vasuda celebrates her 12th birthday on the 23rd of June. May god shower his blessings on her.

Best Wishes from
mother Sharmila, grandparents, friends and relatives

Isha celebrates her 5th birthday on 8th of June. Have a bright year!
Best Wishes from **Shana and Sharu**

Harsh Singhania celebrates his 14th birthday on 8th of June. We wish him a prosperous future and all

GIFTS GALORE!

happiness in his life.

Best Wishes from
parents and relatives

Our dear **Sonali** celebrates her 15th birthday on 1st of June. We wish her a very happy and prosperous birthday.

Best Wishes from
parents, Chitra, Mona, uncle and aunty

Sathyaroopa celebrates his birthday on the 6th of June. We wish him a very happy and enjoyable day.

Best Wishes from
parents, grandparents, cousins, and friends

Save our Earth!

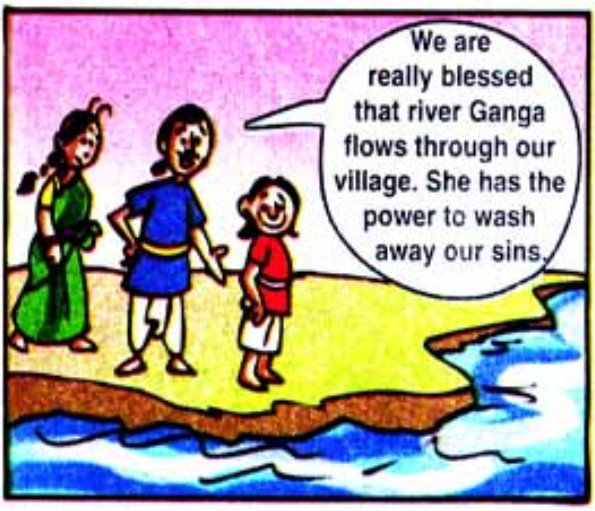
June 5th is celebrated as World Environment Day. Our environment includes the atmosphere, plants, trees, animals and water. Unfortunately, with advancement in technology the entire environment is being polluted and destroyed by humans. We are digging our own grave and no one in this planet will escape from the adverse effects.

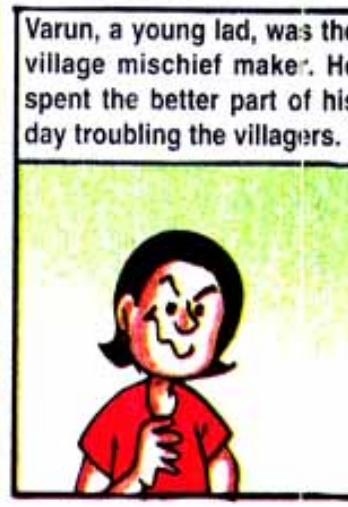
Let's take a pledge today to save our fragile planet. It should be a collective effort. We can do our little bit by religiously following certain basic rules like switching off all electrical appliances when not in use, not wasting water, planting more trees, avoiding plastic, walking and cycling to nearby places and rain water harvesting. Let us make it our responsibility to save our dear earth.

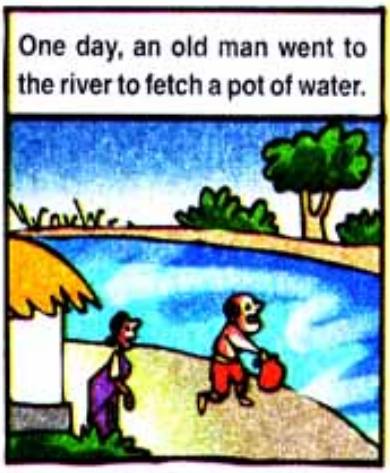
- Kavitha.G, Std.XI, St.Joseph of Cluny, Puducherry

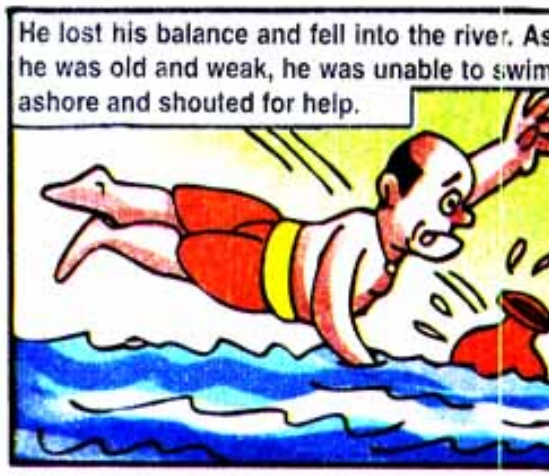
The Sacred River

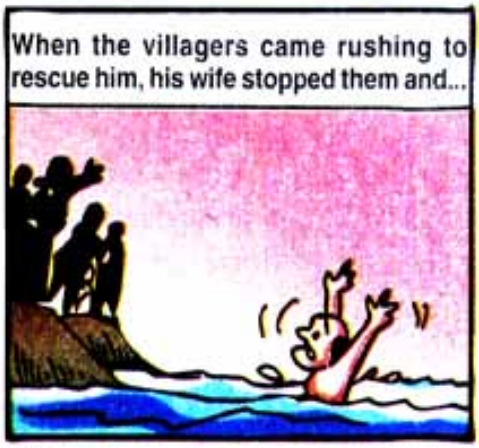
Story: S. Mohammed Sameer, Std: IX, Velammal MHSS, Chennai
Artist: Pilla

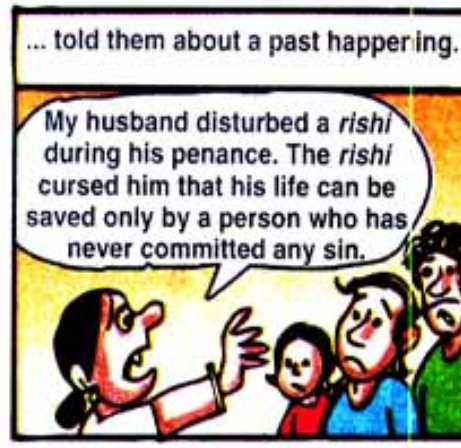


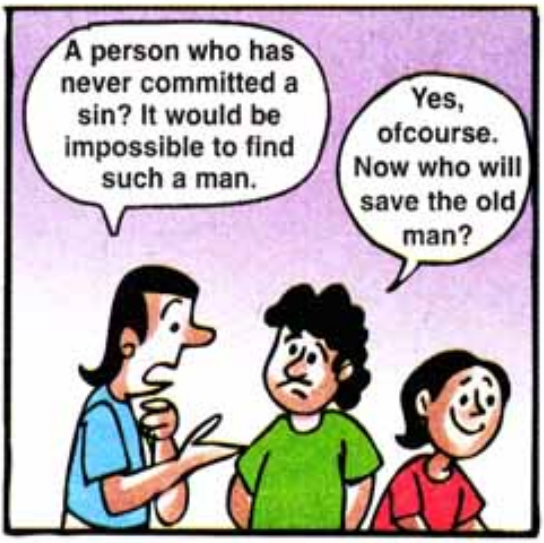


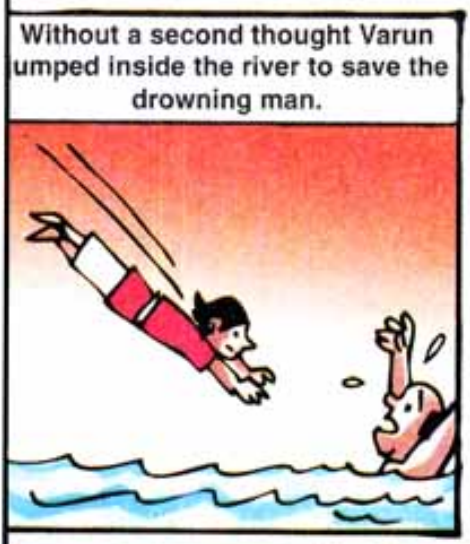








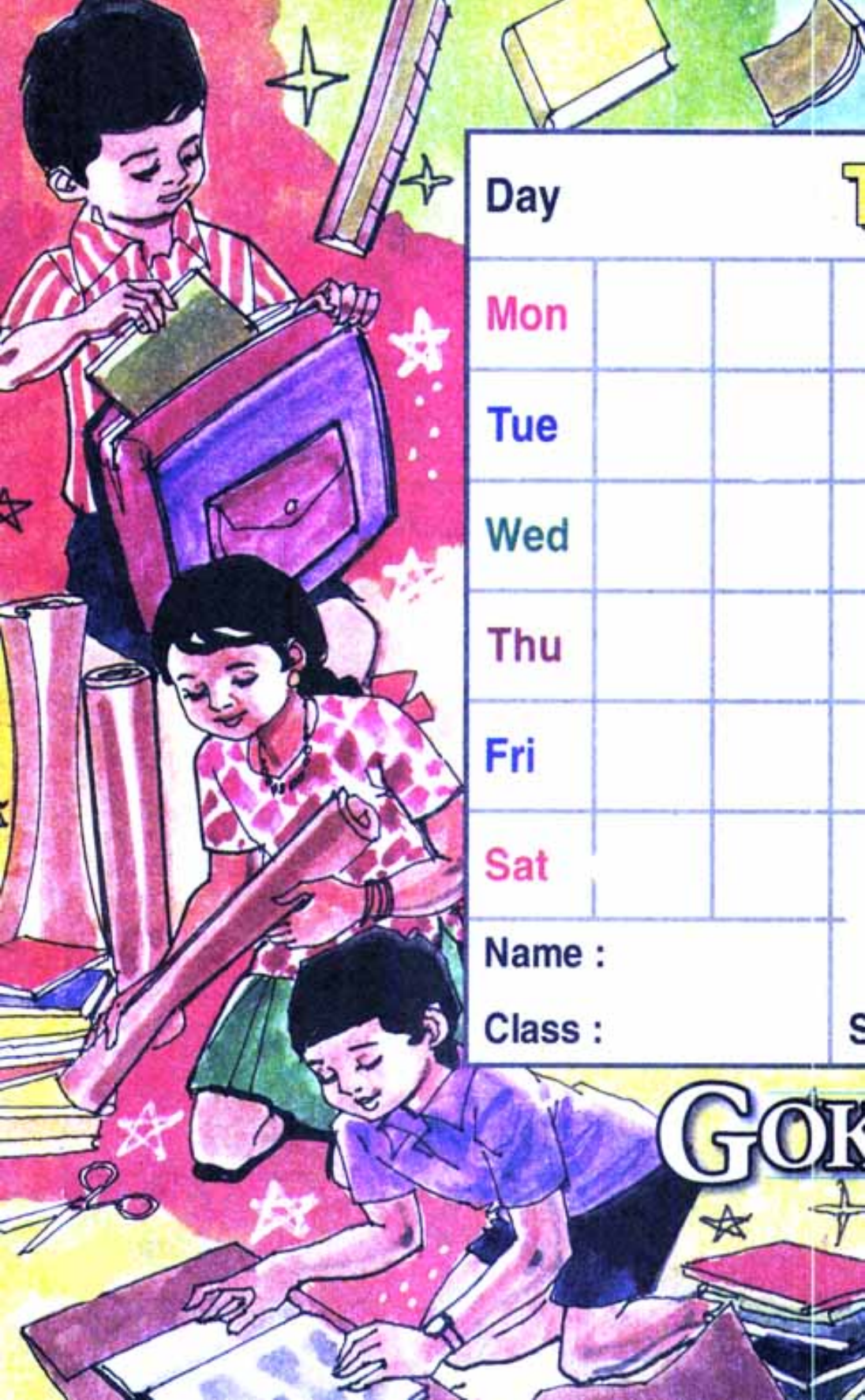

A person who has never committed a sin? It would be impossible to find such a man.
Yes, ofcourse. Now who will save the old man?


Without a second thought Varun umped inside the river to save the drowning man.

What's this? Varun, the ruffian, has jumped into the river..
His list of wrongs is endless. How can he save the man?

Varun, we are surprised you were able to save this man! I think the *rishi's* curse did not work.

Haven't you all been saying that *Ganga* has the power to absolve all our sins? The moment I jumped into the river, my sins were washed away.
My son, while we have all been paying lip service to *Ganga*, you are the one who actually had full faith in her powers. You have opened our eyes.



Day			
Mon			
Tue			
Wed			
Thu			
Fri			
Sat			

Name :

Class :

GOK

IE TABLE

Lunch Break

School :

LAM
Magazine for Children

"You're absolutely stupid, you know that?"

The voice followed him as Ajith wandered miserably from his room to the kitchen. "Just look at your marks! Disgraceful! And your teacher wouldn't even listen to me when I begged that you be promoted to Class 6."

Ajith rummaged through a plastic bag in a corner and brought out a big pack of rusk. His eyes were brimming with tears.

His aunt's irate voice followed him to the front door. "I had to plead with your class teacher, just to reconsider your promotion. And then I had to see the headmistress. And give her a donation. And pay for extra classes! If only you'd studied properly – where do you think you're going?"

Ajith stopped. A tear ran down his cheek; he swiftly brushed it away. "To feed the dogs, Aunty." As if on cue a chorus of hungry howls could be heard from beyond the compound.

"Excellent. Go and feed every hungry dog in the neighbourhood. They're the ones who're going to help you pass. What am I going to do with you?"

Ajith pushed open the iron-gate – and was instantly surrounded by five dogs, all yapping, and trying to lick his hands. He smiled. At least *someone* was enthusiastic about seeing him.

This was a daily ritual. Ajith barely scraped through his exams – but he loved animals. He'd lost his parents in a plane crash as a toddler; his aunt and uncle had adopted him. They were kind in their own way, he supposed – they fed and clothed him; sent him to school and gave him

a home. But they were not what you'd call affectionate. His aunt never spent time with him. Her own two sons demanded all her attention. His uncle left for the office early and came back late.

They lived a few kilometres outside the city and the area was infested with dogs, cats, squirrels and even the odd mongoose. Ajith befriended them all. He coaxed, petted and fed them, cared for them when they were injured, and faithfully guarded the pigeon's eggs from predators. He begged and cajoled his uncle into giving him some money to feed the dogs. They showered him with a love that came to him from nowhere else.

On the other hand – his aunt was justified in yelling at him. He wasn't a good student. All his teachers marvelled at how he ever passed out of any class. Tests and exams muddled him. Maths formulae, English grammar; chemistry – they were all one big, headachy mess. He tried to memorize poems, but they never stayed in his head. History dates were so much gibberish.

And here was the new school year. Class 6. He shuddered at the amount of studying he would have to do.

Simply Magical!

One brown puppy yapped and placed its legs on his knees. "Oh, you're new, aren't you?" Ajith crooned. "Here's a biscuit."

The puppy oozed pus in a dozen places. Ajith clucked in sympathy, got a rag and cleaned it thoroughly. "You poor little thing – who did this to you?" He felt his face grow hot with anger. He could never bear cruelty to animals.

The puppy stared at him out

Pavithra Srinivasan

of melting brown eyes. When Ajith went in, it trotted after him.

"Oh no, you don't. Aunty will kill you," Ajith shooed it away. He walked in and closed the door carefully. He went to his room – he shared it with his cousins. They had a double bed; he had a single cot.

"Are you studying yet?" shouted his aunt.

Ajith sighed and pulled out his books.

He tried to study some history. As usual, it was a mess of paragraphs; he understood nothing of the Cholas. He went to bed.

Something had woken him. There it was. A yap!

Ajith jerked up, startled. Was the brown puppy around yet? He sidled out of the room, careful not to wake any of his aunt's family and opened the front door.

The puppy stood outside wagging its tail.

Ajith smiled. "Hungry?" He went in, found some biscuits and water, and came back.

There was no one at the front door.

Ajith stared into the night, puzzled. He could have sworn he saw the puppy. Somewhere, a dog howled. He turned to go back in.

"Hello."

He almost fell over in shock. Ajith turned around – and saw a shadowy, glittering figure, seven foot tall.

Ghost, he thought terrified. Just as he opened his mouth to scream, the figure spoke.

"Do not be afraid. I am not evil. I would like to help you."

Ajith blinked. The figure's speech was slow and careful, as though it had difficulty with the language.

"Who-who are you?"

"I am not sure you will understand." There seemed to be a smile in the figure's voice. "But I am not from Earth. I am from Gal Xenophyltyl."

"Eh?"

"In your world, you call it the Pegasus Galaxy."

This didn't make much sense either.

"Never mind," said the figure. "I have been travelling in your world in many forms. I have seen many sights: strange, beautiful and ugly. In you, I see compassion. You feed those whom others despise. I took the form of a sickly puppy, but you were kind to me. I wish to reward you. What do you wish?"

Ajith swallowed. This was all some bizarre dream. "I-I don't want anything, thanks."

The figure bowed. "You are modest as well. Nevertheless, I see you have needs. Fear not – you will receive what you wish. Farewell."

Ajith was late the next morning. He bathed and swallowed his breakfast hurriedly, hardly listening to his aunt's tirade. What an elaborate dream he had had last night!

The thought of school was depressing though. He slunk into the school-bus, dragged his feet through the morning assembly and flopped on his bench in class.

The first period was history, taken by a teacher famed for her furious diatribes against weak students. Just two weeks into school and Ajith had already been punished thrice.

This sweltering June morning she seemed in an especially bad mood. Her sharp eyes spied Ajith cowering in the third row.

"Class, yesterday we went through lesson II, introducing the Middle Cholas. Before we go on to lesson III, Ajith will summarize the entire lesson for us."

There was a collective gasp. Ajay and Vijay - his cousins, and several others grinned.

Ajith stood up. Inside, he was shaking. He had studied, really he had – but he remembered nothing. Today, he would be sent out for sure.

The teacher frowned. "As usual, you haven't studied."

Ajith stammered. "I – I ..."

Desperate, he looked down at his book. The lines seemed to run into each other. *Please, let me understand something –*

Something moved across the page. Ajith blinked. A man. Dressed in royal finery, a sword at his waist. Riding on horseback. He was speaking something: "*It is ten years since I ascended the*

throne. I shall build a temple that the whole world will gaze at in astonishment ..."

When Ajith raised his head, it was as though a 3-D picture of the Tanjore temple was revolving around his head. Dates, months and years flashed before his eyes. People rose from the pages of his book and took shape, speaking words that would eventually create history.

Ajith listened carefully – and began to form his sentences, listening to the words echoing across the centuries.

When he finished, complete silence reigned. Then, his teacher spoke. "That was – very well done. It was as though we were all actually in the 10th century. Excellent, Ajith." His cousins sat agape.

Ajith sat down in a daze, and opened all his textbooks. In every subject, it was the same. Einstein explained algebra in a simple fashion; geography lessons took him to the Nile; chemistry lessons were demonstrated to him. Every single lesson came alive.

"Its all so very easy ..." he murmured.

Suddenly, he understood. This was the gift the mysterious figure from Pegasus galaxy had promised – a gift that would satisfy his most pressing need.

"Go and feed every hungry dog in the neighbourhood. They're the ones who're going to help you pass!" his Aunt had yelled.

Ajith grinned. They really had!

Twenty-20

Twenty20, or T20, as it is popularly called, is a form of cricket introduced in the United Kingdom for professional inter-county competition by the England and Wales Cricket Board in 2003. This form of cricket was formed to create a lively version of the game and to make it more attractive to spectators as well as to the millions of television viewers. The Twenty20 is not a replacement to the other forms of cricket, but was rather meant to be played along with them.

© The IPL 2010 Champions

In comparison to a 50 overs one day game, Twenty20, as the name suggests, is a twenty overs game and is completed in about three and half hours. This reduced duration has brought the game on par with other popular team sports like football and basket ball.

Since its inception the game has spread around the cricket world. On most international tours there is at least one Twenty20 match and most test playing nations have a domestic cup competition. The inaugural Twenty20 World Cup was played in South Africa in 2007 where India defeated Pakistan in the final by five runs. The 2009 World Cup was lifted by Pakistan, who defeated Sri Lanka in the finals played in England.

India has its own Indian Premier League (IPL) launched by the BCCI in 2008 comprising of eight teams. The finals of the season 3 were played in Mumbai on April 25th this year between Mumbai Indians and Chennai Super Kings with the latter lifting the cup.

- P.Nishanth, Diploma 1st Yr, Panimalar Polytechnic, Chennai

'Test' of Welfare
Story: Mohan Chalam
Artist: Simi
The king of Surajpur was searching for a sincere and honest welfare minister.
There are very few who think about the welfare of the kingdom.
On the road,
A stone in the middle of the road? Why doesn't the government do something?
Oh no! My whole pot of milk is spilt. Who put this here?
Aah! May he be cursed who put this in the middle of the road.
You should have stepped aside like me.
Hey, what's this? A stone right in the middle of the road! Let me remove it before somebody gets hurt.
How dare you touch this stone? We are the royal guards and we arrest you in the name of the king.
But.. but.. what did I do?
The king asked us to arrest anybody who touched this stone. It was lying on the road for the past two weeks and no one gave it a second glance.

Your majesty, I just picked up a stone lying in the middle of the road and your soldiers arrested me for that.
Lock him up in the cell. I will announce his punishment tomorrow.
I cannot believe this. I thought the king was just and kind. Oh god..sigh!
Next day,
I hereby pronounce that he should dig the same place where he found the stone.
The poor man starts digging in the hot sun..
Hey.. what's this? A box?
Chief Minister! Open the box and check its contents immediately.
Yes, your majesty!
He found a scroll inside the box and read it aloud.
It says... I can't believe...
You have to good man... The scroll declares its finder as the Welfare Minister.
I was searching since long for a sincere and honest person for the post. A person who would work selflessly and tirelessly for the common cause. And I have found him in you.

Unusual

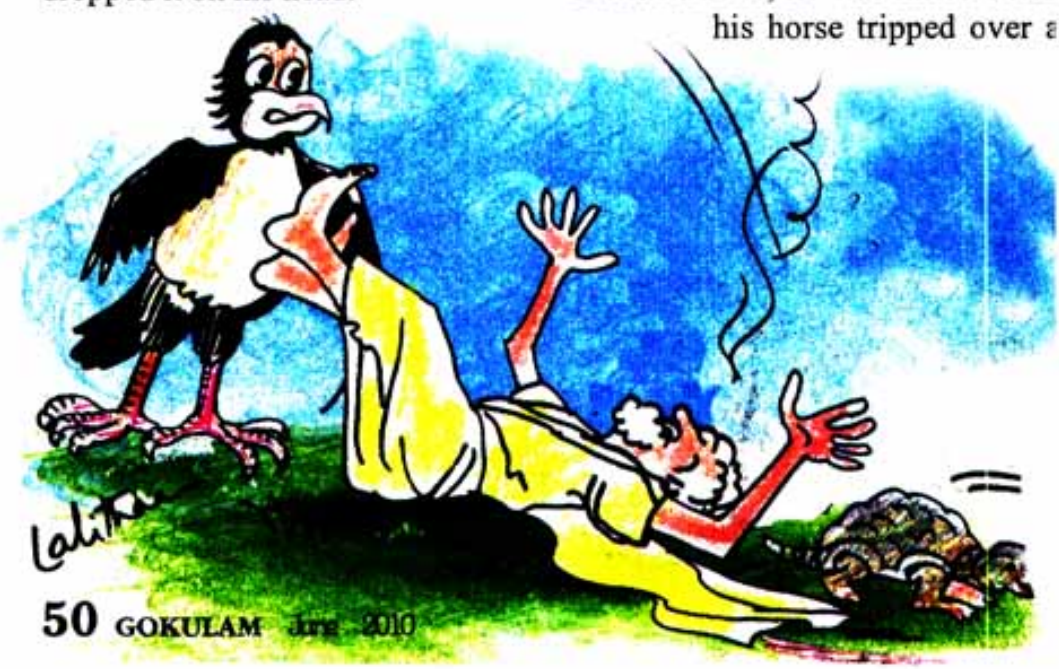
There have been many famous deaths in the history of mankind, some tragic, many brave and some pathetic. But here are some weird, unusual deaths of a few famous men - deaths which evoke a feeling of surprise and bewilderment by their sheer unexpectedness.

Frederick, Prince of Wales: He was the son of George II and heir to the British throne. He died in 1751 after being hit by a cricket ball.

Aeschylus: This famous Greek dramatist died in 456 BC. A prediction that he would be killed by 'a blow from heaven' came true when an eagle carrying a tortoise, dropped it on his head.

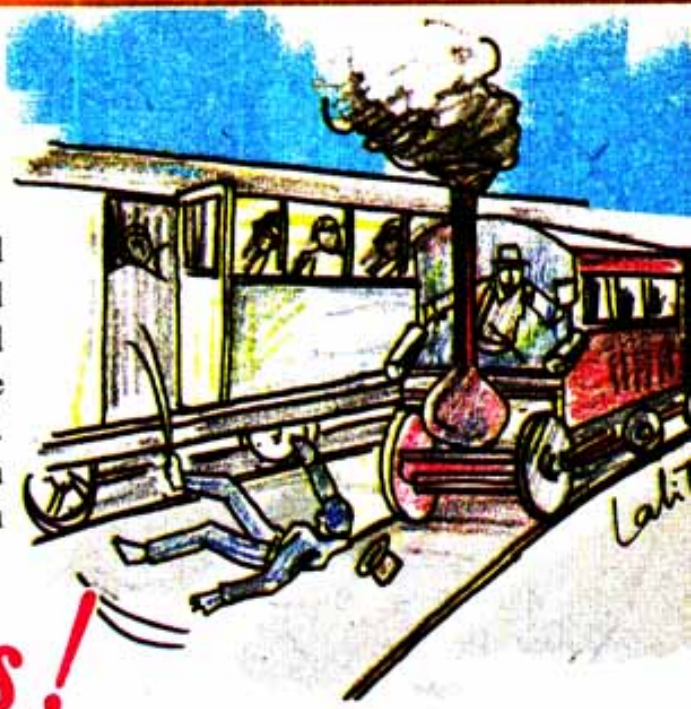
King Alexander of Greece: He died after being bitten by his pet monkey in 1920.

Prince Philippe: Heir to the French throne, he was killed when his horse tripped over a



pig in the streets of Paris in 1131.

Harry Houdini: He was a famous magician and escapologist who claimed that he could withstand blows to the body above the waist without injury. Unfortunately he died in 1926 after being punched in the stomach by a student who wanted to test his claim.



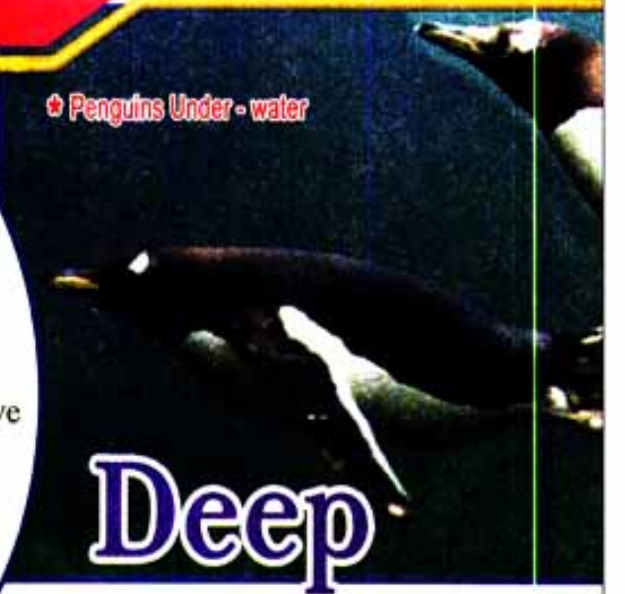
Deaths!

Jerome Cardan: Cardan was an Italian physician, mathematician and astrologer. He starved himself to death in 1576 to make sure that his own prediction of his death would come true!

William Huskisson: He was a prominent member of the British Parliament. He was run down by a train during the opening of the Liverpool and Manchester railways in 1830.

Francis Bacon: This Elizabethan philosopher caught a chill while trying to deep freeze a chicken by stuffing it in snow. Travelling through the winter snow, he was suddenly inspired by the possibility of using it to preserve meat, and in turn, contracted a fatal case of pneumonia and died within a week in 1626.

***Compiled by :* - J.Vishnu, Std.XI, Sunbeam MHSS, Vellore**



* Penguins Under - water

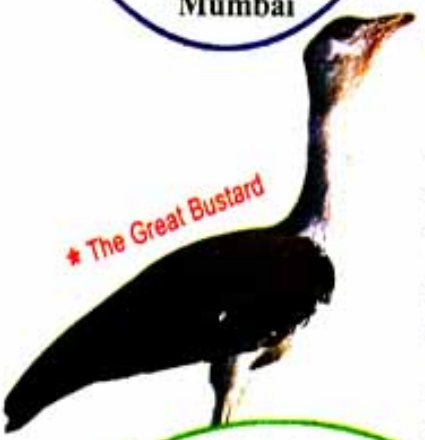
Penguins can dive under water to a depth of more than 266 mts and stay there for around 18 minutes. Infact, large emperor penguins can dive upto 500 mts!

- Deepika Durai, Std.X, Our Lady of Good Counsel High School, Mumbai

Deep Sea Divers!

Scientists have claimed that there are mor venomous fish than snakes. A recent study ha recorded 1200 varieties of venomous fish The poisonous list includes lionfish, catfish, scorpionfish, toadfish, stonefish, surgeonfish and weeverfish.

Can any living being survive the al powerful nuclear radiation? Well, the mos



* The Great Bustard

The tallest Indian bird is the sarus crane, about five feet in height.

The oldest known bird with feathers is archaeopteryx of the Jurassic age.

The largest flying Indian bird is the great bustard. It weighs about 15-18 kgs.

- Aishwarya Mohan, Std.IX, Sri Vidya Mandir, Salem

* Deinococcus Radiodurans

A dog's nose is extremely sensitive and can differentiate between a tub of plain water and a tub of water with a spoon of salt in it.

- T.Harsh Singhania, Std.VIII, Cheran MHSS, Karur

* Sarus Crane

The tree kangaroos, though slow and clumsy on land, can leap a distance of 15 mts from one tree to another. They can also jump down from a height of 59 ft quite easily.

- N.Adaikkappan, Std.IX, DPS, Bengalooru

* Tree Kangaroos

common answer to this would be 'cockroach'. But even this hardy insect may be killed if exposed to prolonged radiation. Scientists have discovered a microbe 'Deinococcus Radiodurans', which can withstand very heavy doses of radiation! But how does it survive such massive doses of radiation? This micro organism is blessed with the ability to repair its DNA immediately after they are damaged by the powerful rays.

- K.Akila, Std.IX, Banadurai Hr.Sec. School, Kumbakonam

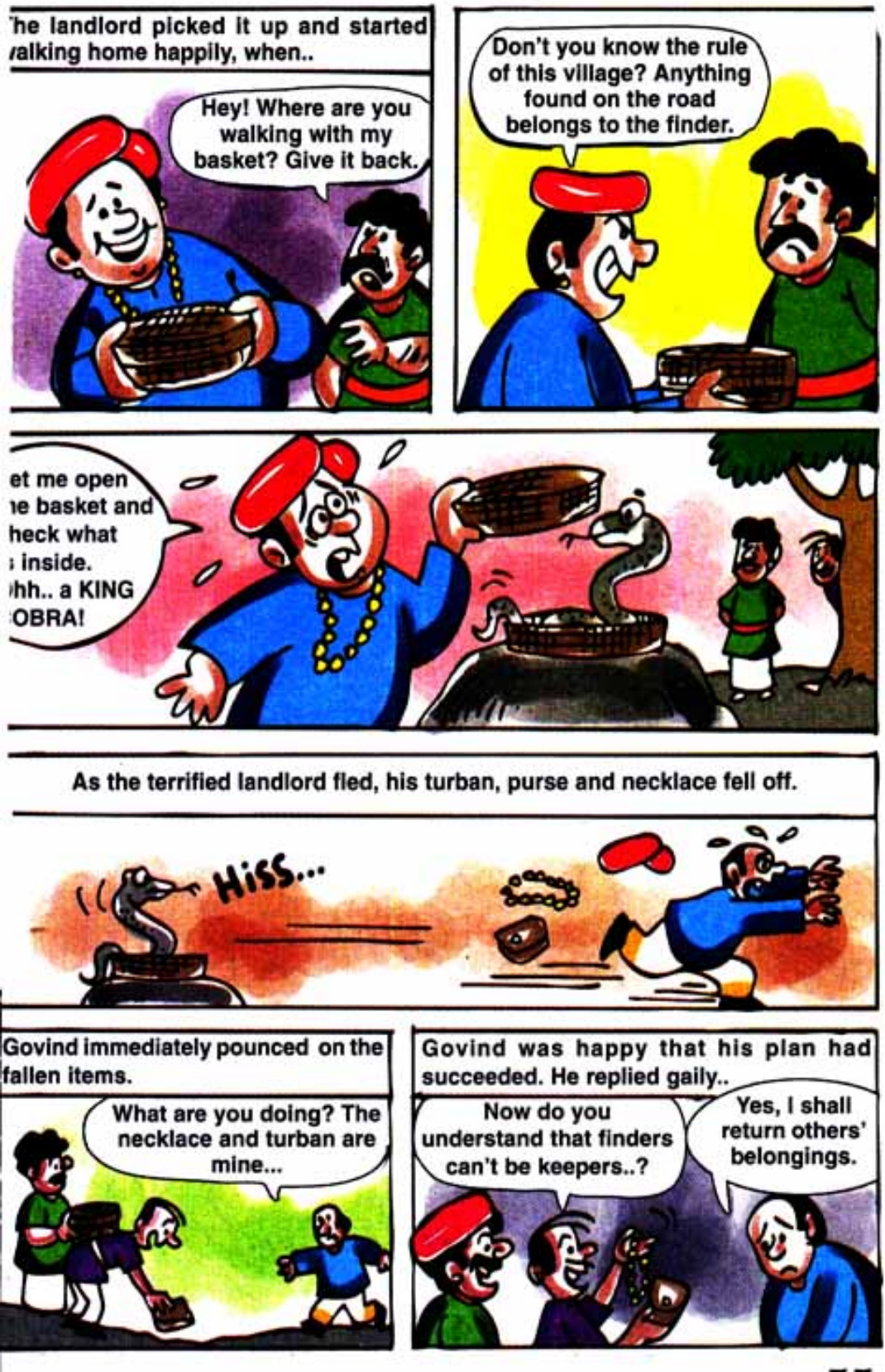
Monarch butterflies migrate from Canada to Mexico, a journey of some 2500 miles! These butterflies hibernate in enormous clusters in the Mexican pine trees giving the appearance that the trees are dripping with butterflies.

- S.G.Nandhini, Std.X, St.Mary's MHSS, Idappadi, Tamil Nadu

* Cluster of Monarch Butterflies

Finders and Keepers!

Story: Antony.A, Std: IX, DAV Sr Sec School, Chennai. Artist: Pillai


'he landlord picked it up and started
valking home happily, when..
Hey! Where are you walking with my basket? Give it back.
Don't you know the rule of this village? Anything found on the road belongs to the finder.
et me open
ıe basket and
heck what
ı inside.
hh.. a KING
OBRA!
As the terrified landlord fled, his turban, purse and necklace fell off.
HISS...
Govind immediately pounced on the fallen items.
What are you doing? The necklace and turban are mine...
Govind was happy that his plan had succeeded. He replied gaily..
Now do you understand that finders can't be keepers..?
Yes, I shall return others' belongings.

COLOUR UP

Attention!

Make Sure and Take Care

Dear children,

A young reader sent us a lovely poem. We chanced to find out that it had been copied out of his text book! Please don't copy out of books and send them as your contributions. If your writing is to be published, it should be interesting, well-written and original. We also need you to follow some simple rules:

1. **Write down your name, class, name of your school and complete residential address** at the beginning of each contribution. Henceforth, we will not accept any contribution with incomplete details.

2. **Make use of A4 sheets and write on one side of the paper**, leaving the other side blank. And do write legibly.

3. **Number your pages** and if your contribution runs to more than two pages, then write your complete personal details at the back of every page.

4. **Contributions by e-mail are welcome**... do give complete details including your e-mail id at the beginning of each mail.

5. **The best contributions will be published** and a certificate will be sent to the contributor. Do preserve your certificates, for the child with the maximum number of certificates will get a bumper prize at the end of 12 months (ending each June).

6. **Competition entries** must reach us before the last date mentioned.

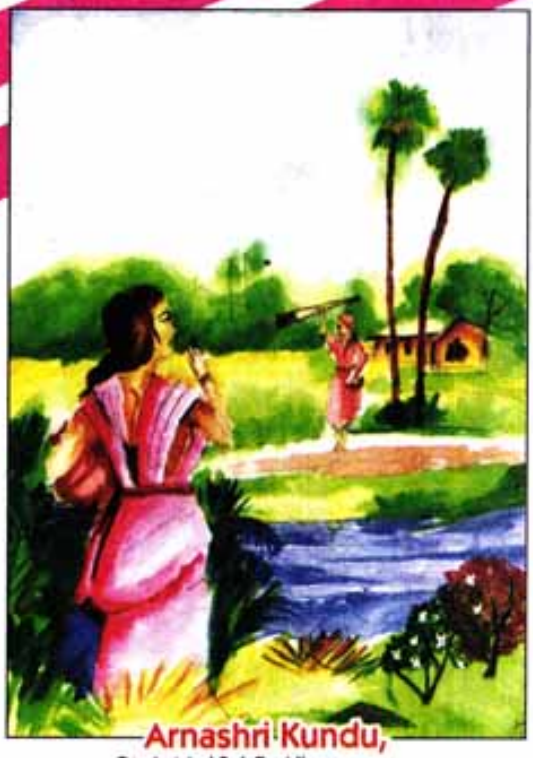
7. Coupons provided in Gokulam for competition entries **should not be xeroxed**.

8. Entries to It's Your Day (Birthday Bash) and theme based contributions (eg., Diwali, New year, Republic Day, Environment Day, Teacher's Day, etc) **should reach us two months prior to the respective events.**

9. **We are looking for original stories, experiences, amusing anecdotes and articles**, but if you have based your writing on any source, then do acknowledge it.

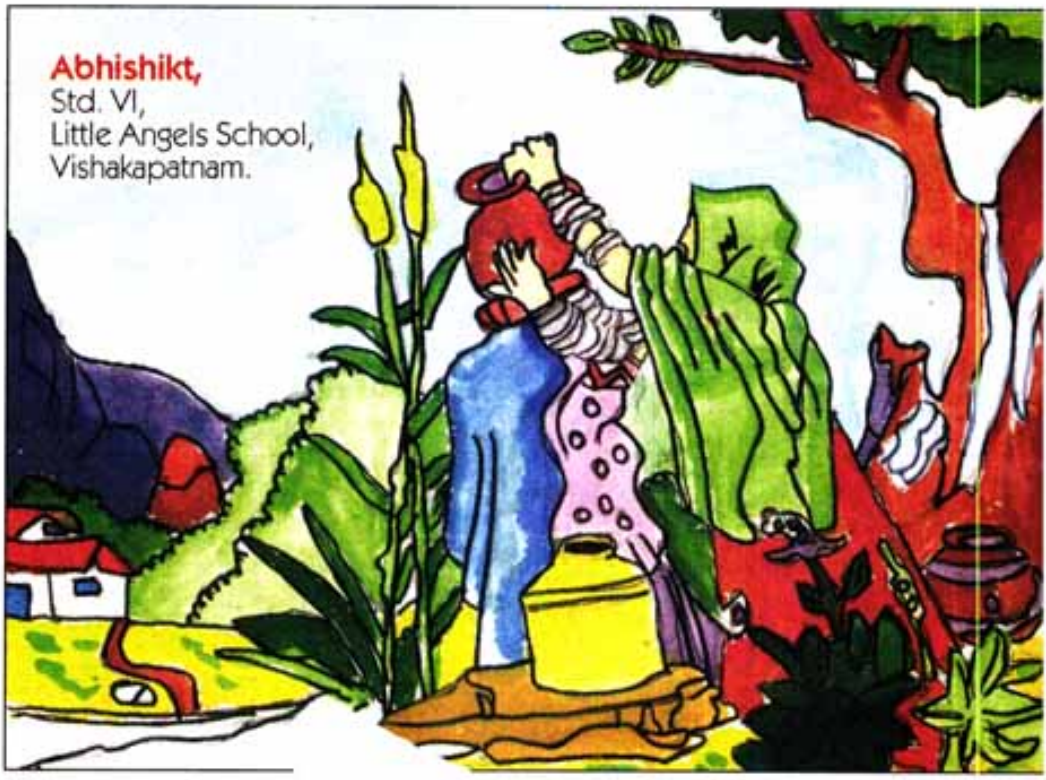
10. **No copying, please !**

Please make sure that you take care of the ten commandments!



Arnashri Kundu,
Std. X, KV-2, Kharagpur,
West Bengal.

N.Sri Balakritikka,
Std. VIII, Bal Bharathi Public School,
Mumbai.

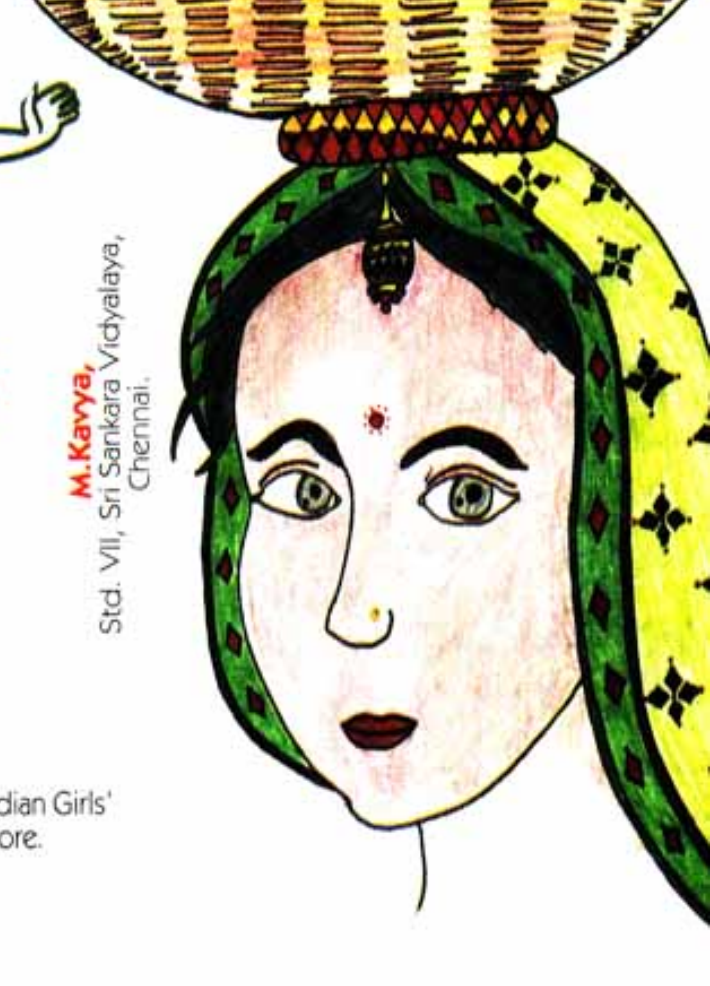


Abhishikt,
Std. VI,
Little Angels School,
Vishakapatnam.

Art ZONE

M.Sindhu,
Std. IX,
S.A.V. English School,
Bhadravathi.

S.Rakshana,
Std. VII, St.Francis Anglo Indian Girls' High School,Coimbatore.



M.Kavya,
Std. VII, Sri Sankara Vidyalaya,
Chennai.

Name : **Abel**

Age: 14

Address: Flat No.403, S.V.L. Towers, LIC Colony, West Maredpally, Secunderabad - 26

Hobbies: Playing badminton, cricket, watching National Geographic and Discovery channels, reading books and writing articles.

Name : **B.Ramya**

Age : 12

Address : 107, Gokulam, III Stage, IV Main, Mysore – 570002, Karnataka

Hobbies : Playing tennis, reading comics, playing keyboard, watching horror movies, cooking, playing computer games and making friends.

Name : **V.Sandhya**

Age : 10

Address : A-3, Meenakshi Flats, No.4, Jeeva Nagar 1st Street, Madipakkam, Chennai - 600091

Hobbies : Listening to music, cycling, making new friends, dancing, singing, playing badminton, collecting currencies of different countries, watching T.V.

Name : **M.Jaisha Priyam**

Age : 13

Address : 492, TNHB Colony, Ettayapuram Road, Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu

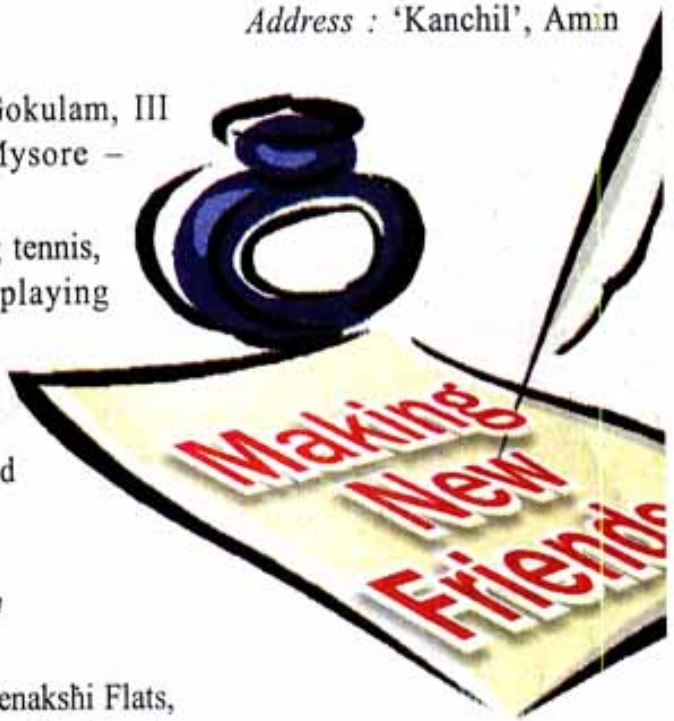
Hobbies : Playing basketball, drawing, reading stories, listening to music and watching T.V.

Name : **Shreyank.S.Kotian**

Age : 13

Address : 'Kanchil', Amin Compound, Near 1st Railway Bridge, Marnamikatta, Mangalore – 575001, Karnataka

Hobbies : Drawing, playing cricket and badminton, collecting coins and chatting with friends.



Name : **M.Nagarjun**

Age : 14

Address : 10, Pumping Station Road – II, Thirunagar Colony, Erode – 638003, Tamil Nadu

Hobbies : Listening to music, reading books, playing indoor and outdoor games.

Name : **C.Srividya Lakshmi**

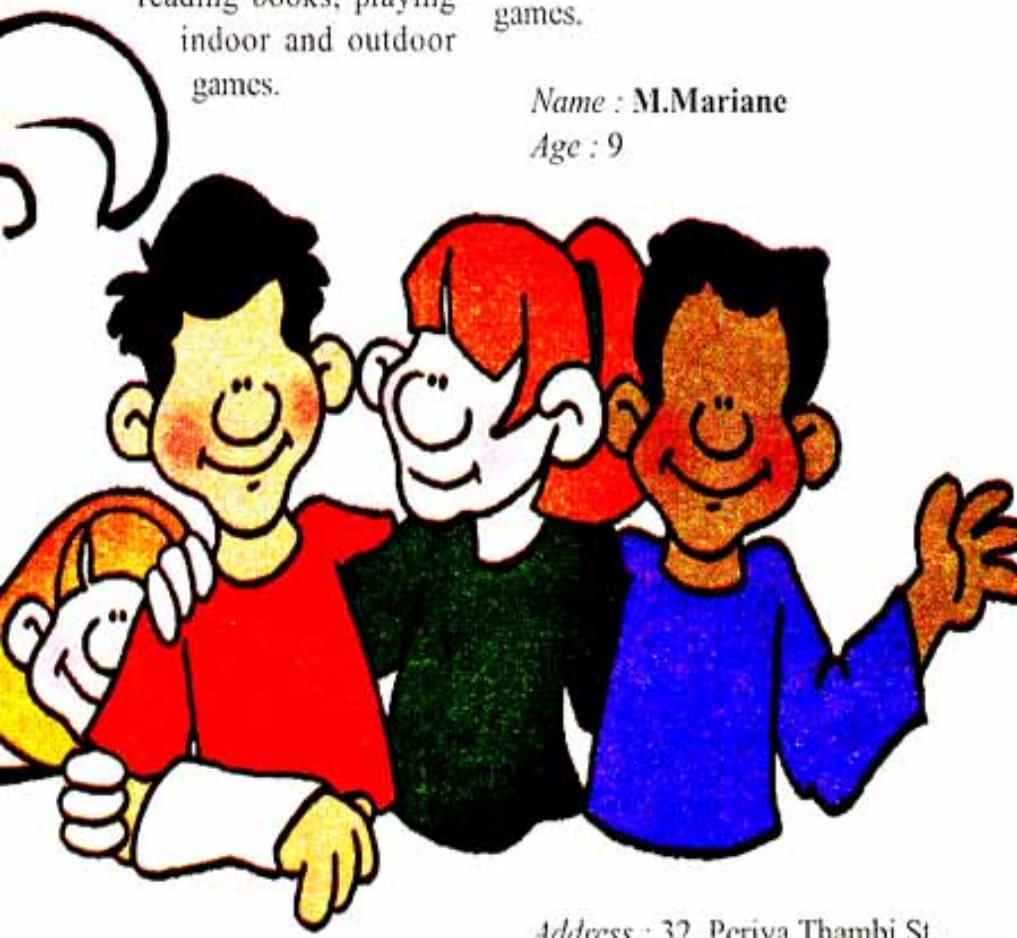
Age : 9

Address : 5b/4, B-12, SFI Apts, Chennai – 600024, Tamil Nadu

Hobbies : Playing computer games, singing, reading, listening to music, cycling and playing outdoor games.

Name : **M.Mariane**

Age : 9



Name : **Urmi Bala Tripathy**

Age : 14

Address : DL\ a3, VSS Nagar, Bhubaneshwar – 751007, Orissa

Hobbies : Playing badminton, computer games, dancing and reading.

Address : 32, Periya Thambi St., Choolai, Chennai – 600112, Tamil Nadu

Hobbies : Reading magazines and story books, listening to music, playing outdoor games and watching T.V.

The 'REAL' Winner!

Story : **Iswar Venugopal,** Std. IX, KV-Kannur, Kerala Artist : **Pillai**

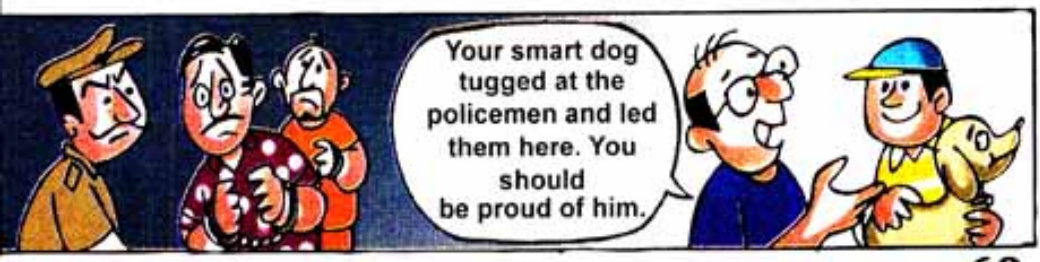
Patrick gave chase and Timmy followed him. Soon they were in a lonely alley.

Suddenly, Patrick was surrounded by the thief and his gang. But he...

... was confident that Timmy would save him. But to his surprise...

After sometime, the thieves decided to lock him, when Timmy appeared from nowhere and...

... pounced on them with full force. They could also hear the wail of the police siren.



Customer : Do you have running shoes?

Shopkeeper : Oh no! None of our shoes move from their places!

• • •

Captain : The ship is going to sink. Does anyone know how to pray?

A passenger : Sure, I know!

Sinking Prayers!

Ship crew : Good, you pray while we put on our life belts. We are one short.

- Rohit Srivatsav, Std.VII,
Doha, Qatar

Teacher : Where is the English Channel?

Student : I don't know ma'm. I will check our television guide and let you know.

- K.Haritha, Std.VI,
TVS MHSS, Madurai

Teacher : Riya, correct the following sentence – 'The bull and cow is grazing.'

Riya : The cow and bull is grazing.

Teacher : But you have not corrected it.

Riya : Yes, I have ma'm, by placing the lady first.

- Aparna.S, Std.VIII,
Holy Angels ISC School,
Thiruvananthapuram

At a bus stop..

Man : How long will the next bus be?

Boy : The same length as the other buses!

• • •

Boy : How do you recognize a silly boy in school?

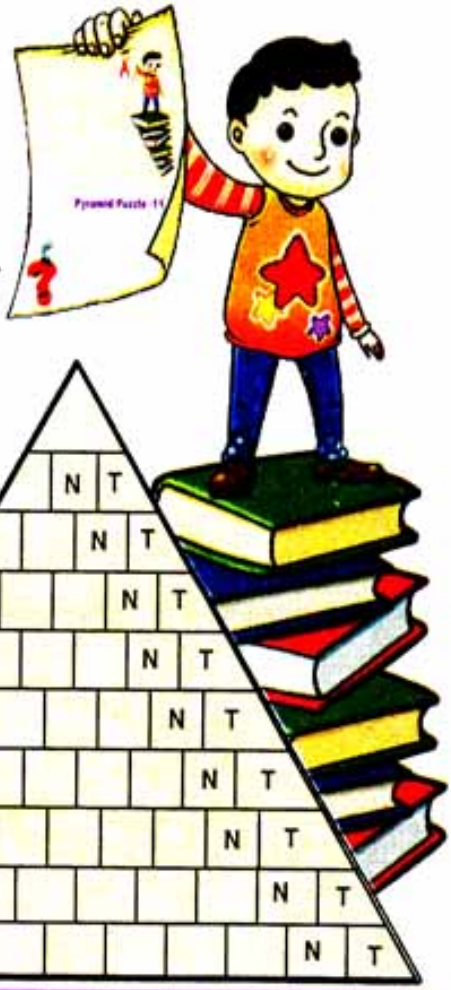
Friend : He is the one who erases his notebooks when the teacher wipes out the black board!

- Gowreesh Prabhu, Std.VII,
Sri Ramakrishna Hr
Primary School
Mangalo

Dear Children,

Out of the large number of entries we received this month, almost half had a wrong answer for clue 5. 'Mundane' is the correct answer to the clue *'Ordinary'* and not 'Routine' as written in by many of you. Mundane means common and plain, while routine means regular or unvarying. So take some time out, think and then fill up the puzzle.

Note : All the words of 'Pyramid Puzzle – 11' end with the same two letters – 'NT'



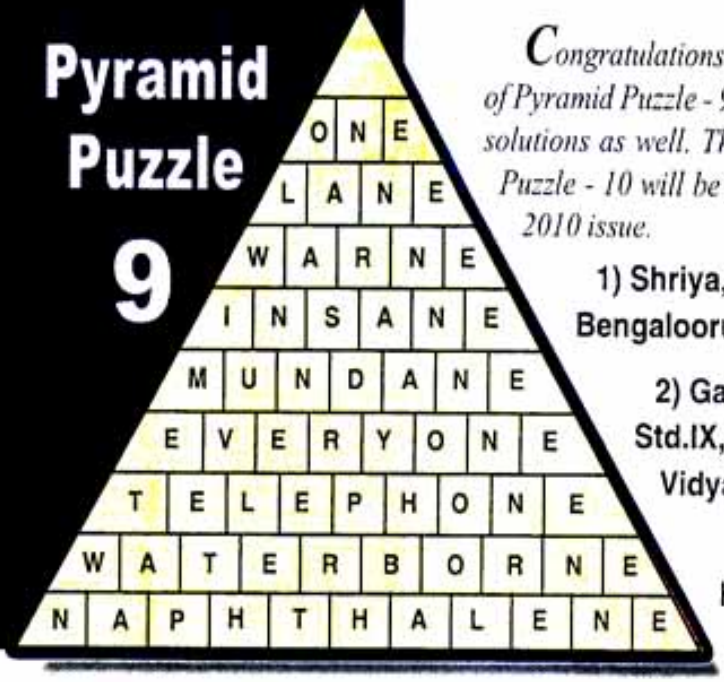
Fill in the form on the reverse of this page and send your entries to Gokulam before **25.6.10**

Pyramid Puzzle -11

1. A hard working insect
2. A clue
3. A happening
4. To agree
5. Component of a whole
6. Rich
7. Grievance
8. Betrothal
9. Authorization

- G.S.S

Pyramid Puzzle 9



Congratulations! Here are the winners of Pyramid Puzzle - 9 (April 2010) and the solutions as well. The results of Pyramid Puzzle - 10 will be published in the July 2010 issue.

1) Shriya, Std.X, KV-IISC. Bengalooru

2) Gayathri Rajeev, Std.IX, Amrita Vidyalayam, Thrissur

3) R.Santosh Krishnan, Std.X, KV-Ashok Nagar, Chennai

4) K.Rahul Kamath, Std.V, St.Cecily's Convent, Udupi

5) C.G.Karthik, Std.VI, DAV Public School, Secunderabad

Pyramid Puzzle -11 Entry Form

Name : (Mr/Ms) .....

Age : ..... Class : .....

School : .....

*Residential Address : .....

.....Pin .....

Signature : .....

* Local address is a must for overseas entries.

The Editor, Gokulam, Kalki Buildings,

47-NP, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Ekkaduthangal, Chennai - 600 032.

● Strictly for school going children ● Five lucky winners will get a cash award of Rs.50/- each. They will be decided by a draw of lots from out of the all correct entries. ● Entries with completed grid on the reverse accepted on this form only ● No xerox copies. ● Editor's decision is final and binding.

The Great Pacific Garbage Patch!

New York's ıdest library has ıscovered that ıeorge Washington, ıe first President of .S.A., has to pay $300,000 as onsolidated fine! He borrowed two ooks in 1789 and failed to return ıem within a month. George Vashington died in 1799, but the ne has been piling up from the due ate!

So far, scientists have been ıying that aliens may exist and that ıe should try to communicate with ıem. But Stephen Hawking, a ading physicist, has come out with new theory. He says that aliens do ıist, and having exhausted the ıtural resources of their planet, may ıid the earth! So, it's safer not to y to communicate with them!

A powerful bomb blast in Bengalooru Chinnaswamy Stadium, shifted the venue of a few IPL matches to Mumbai. But this was soon followed by verbal 'bomb blasts'! IPL commissioner Lalit Modi accused the minister of state for External Affairs,

Shashi Tharoor and vice versa! Their war of words centered around the Kochi IPL team owners! As their anger flared up, more skeletons fell off the cupboard and it was revealed that a number of politicians were involved. The opposition wanted a J.P.C. (Joint Parliamentary Committee) probe. This was ruled out by the government and only the

income tax authorities have taken some action. No one has been charge sheeted yet. However, both Shashi Tharoor and Lalit Modi were forced to resign by the P.M. and B.C.C.I. respectively.

* Shashi Tharoor

* Lalit Modi

Looks like people will do anything for a record! Craftsman Tony Dew of U.K., built the world's biggest rocking horse! He built it with plywood using Bertie, a retired race horse as his model. While the real Bertie is 5½ feet tall, 'Big Bertie' the look-alike is much, much bigger.

An Icelandic volcano erupted and it was feared that the spreading ash cloud would affect air cra functioning and caus them to crash. S thousands of flights we cancelled and airpor came to a stand stil Innumerable strande passengers had a agonizingly difficult tim

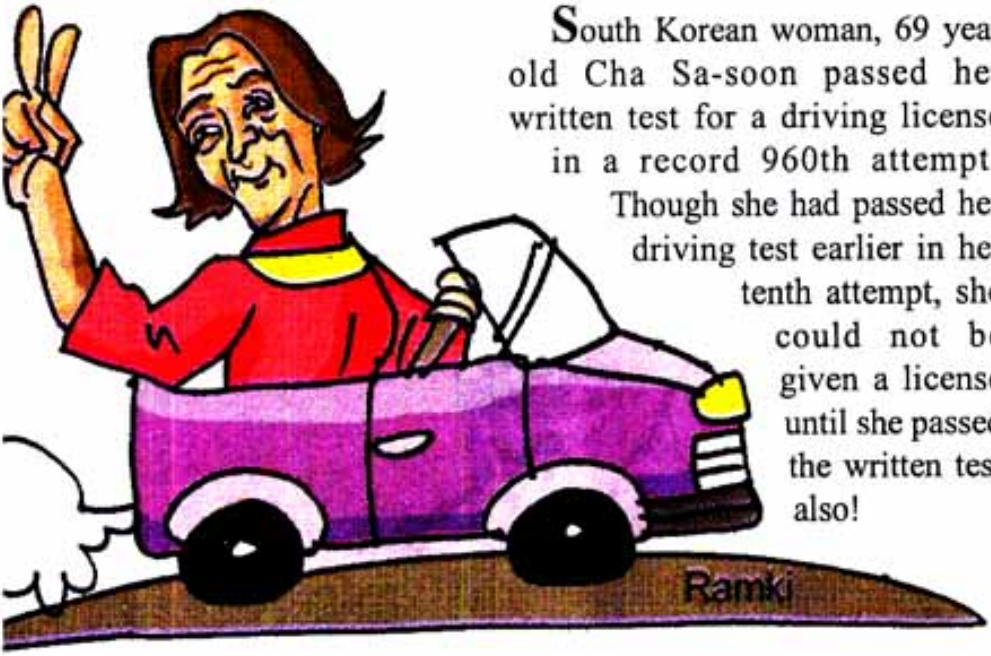
* World's Biggest Rocking Horse

Opposition partie blaming the governme for increase in prices diesel, petrol and all othe essential commoditie brought a 'cut motion' in the budge session of Parliament. If the cu motion had succeeded it would hav resulted in the fall of Manmoha Singh government. But som opposition parties like B.S.I supported the government while couple of other opposition partie just abstained from voting. Th government survived bu numerical calculations prov that a minority coalition is i power!

Oceanographers hav found that the vast floatin island of rubbish in th Pacific, has doubled i size over a decade! It i now six times the siz

Britain! The Great Pacific arbage Patch contains all kinds of astic products starting from opping bags to artificial swimming ools! It is a threat to sealife. As uch as 26 pieces of plastic were und inside a single fish by searchers. They warn that the emicals will work their way into imans through fish.

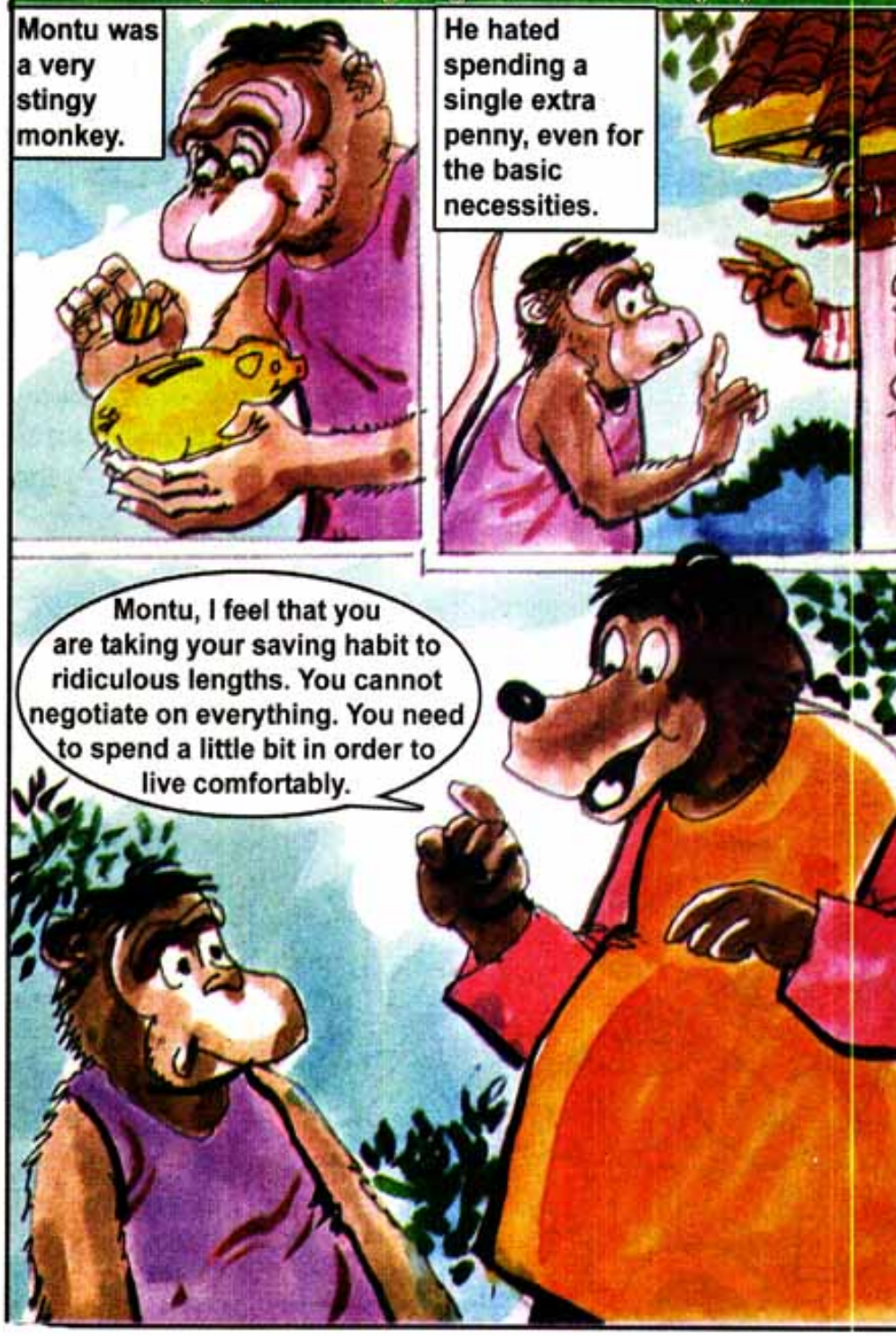
Kasab, the lone surviving terrorist of the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack, was sentenced to death by the special court. More or less coinciding with this, Faisal, a Pakistani American, was arrested by New York police for trying to car bomb the Times Square. It has been found that Faisal had links with terrorists in Pakistan.

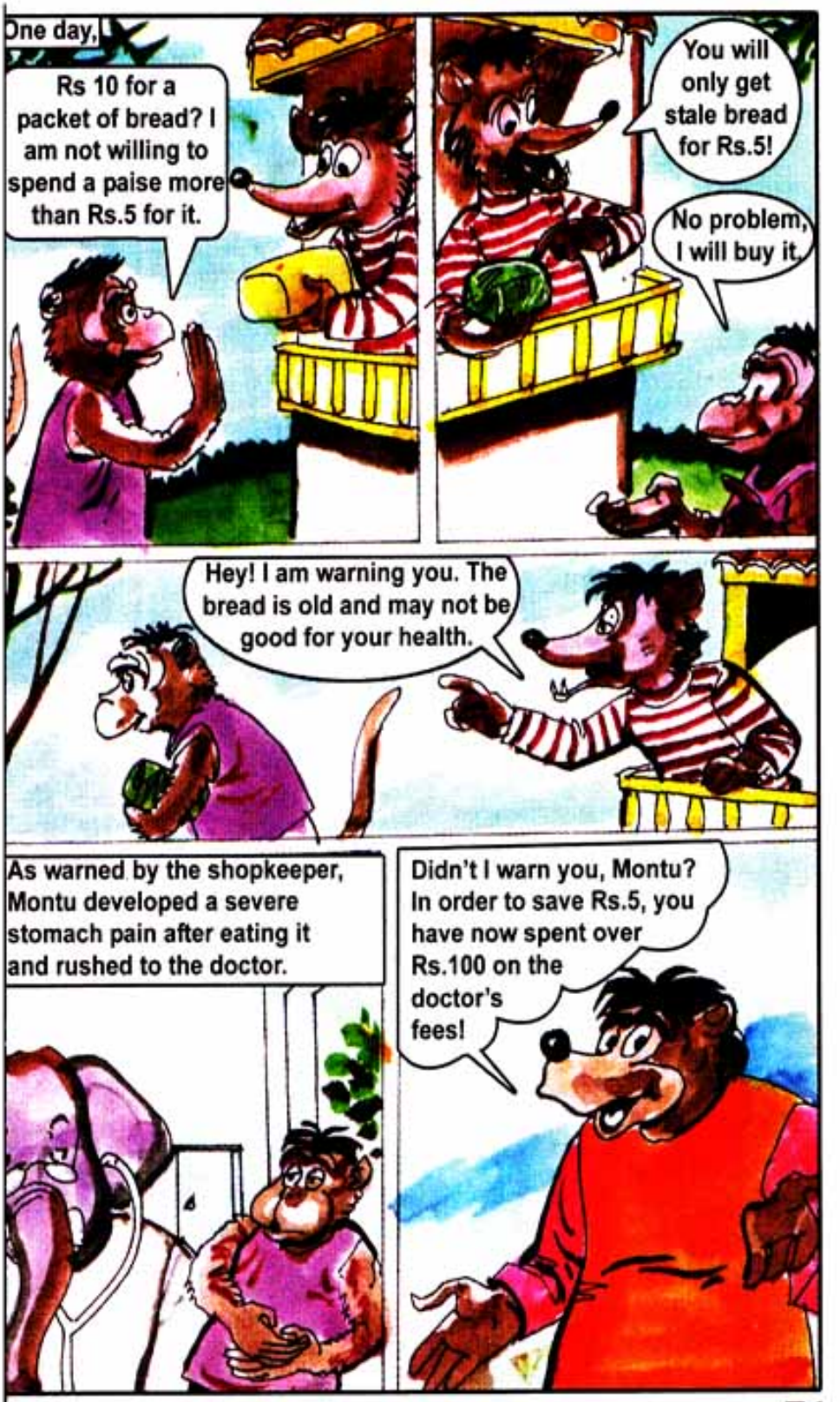


South Korean woman, 69 year old Cha Sa-soon passed her written test for a driving license in a record 960th attempt! Though she had passed her driving test earlier in her tenth attempt, she could not be given a license until she passed the written test also!

Penny Wise - Pound Foolish

Story: Sanjana.M.Galgali, Age 12, Hubli. Artist: Jeyaraj




One day,
Rs 10 for a packet of bread? I am not willing to spend a paise more than Rs.5 for it.
You will only get stale bread for Rs.5!
No problem, I will buy it.
Hey! I am warning you. The bread is old and may not be good for your health.
As warned by the shopkeeper, Montu developed a severe stomach pain after eating it and rushed to the doctor.
Didn't I warn you, Montu? In order to save Rs.5, you have now spent over Rs.100 on the doctor's fees!

Too Young to

D*ear Grandma,*

I am very poor at spelling and I lose marks because of this. Please suggest ways to improve.

- V.Sai Sujith, Hyderabad

Dear Sai,

English is a tricky language! Some words are pronounced as they are spelt; but many words are pronounced differently from the way they are spelt. For example, 'Straight' cannot be written as 'Strait' which is another word with a different meaning! You have to be careful with such words. Whenever you come across a new word in your text book or story book, look up the meaning in the dictionary and write it four or five times in your rough book. While doing so, you must spell and also pronounce aloud, the word correctly as indicated in the dictionary. There is no easy way to learn correct spelling. Only practis can make perfection!

I ***am fifteen years old. Is it to early for me to have a mobil phone? My mom says playing wit a mobile phone is a waste of time but I play only for a few minute with my mom's phone!***

- Deepika Durai, Mumba

Dear Deepika,

A mobile phone is a very usefu tool if used properly. It should b used only for communication an not for conversation. There is health hazard to the user if used fo long periods. Unnecessary an sometimes embarrassing message are received by mobile users Playing games and chatting wit

iends through SMS becomes a abit and a waste of time. On :count of these minus points many lucational institutions ban mobiles ıt allow students to use the stitution's phone in case of urgency : emergency. Find out if your :hool authorities allow cell phones be brought to school. If there is a ın don't buy a mobile phone. It will ·ove to be a waste of money. If

ıave a Mobile?

:llphones are allowed at school ıen you will have to convince your ırents that you will avoid the minus oints detailed above. More ıportant, keep up your promise to em.

I don't like to read my school text ıoks. I always want to play and atch TV! My mother scolds me for ıis. Please advise my mother!

- R.Aparajit, Hosur

Dear Aparajit,

You want me to advise your mother for some short coming of yours! Very funny indeed! You must realise that a good education is a must, to face the problems and challenges of the future. A bright and successful career depends upon your education. You must get used to hard work even during boyhood, so that, your career will not be a burden to you at a later stage. If you neglect these now, you will repent it at a future date. Do play and watch TV, but restrict it for half an hour each. Get back to your studies. As for your mother, I would advise her not to get angry with you. Instead, it would be good it she can find the time to sit with you while you are studying, to encourage you.

I used to stand first in my class but I could not do well in standard ten board examination. How can I face my teachers? I feel ashamed and totally confused.

- Anon

Dear Anon,

Setbacks do happen in life. When you were young you must have enjoyed slide-rides in parks or playgrounds. You climbed the ladder huffing and puffing, reached the top, sat down and whoosh... you slid to the bottom! You did not give up. You went back to the ladder and climbed the steps once again! The slide-ride teaches you to take ups and downs on an equal footing. What is important is the effort taken to reach the top and not giving up when there is a down fall. You studied sincerely and hard enough. Sometimes questions in public exams do confuse students because some other teacher sets the question paper and not the one who taught you at scho Don't worry. I'm sure that even you don't get a rank, you will promoted and in junior college, y will do extremely well. Efforts nev fail!

Some of my relatives are distant places and on occasio when we meet I expect others break the ice. May be they expe me to do the same! We leave ev before we begin to talk!

- G.Kavitha, Puducher

Dear Kavitha,

To some, chatting com naturally, others are the reserv type. Both you and your relativ seem to belong to the latter catego All that is required to begin conversation is a greeting and smile. 'Hi' or "Good mornin followed with a gentle hand sha creates intimacy. Begin t conversation with the obvious, lik "How are you keeping?" or "Hc was your trip?" and even an o word answer will allow you to bui up on health tips or trav experiences. Remember, conversations need not be profour Light banter helps you to relax a allows friendship and intimacy grow.

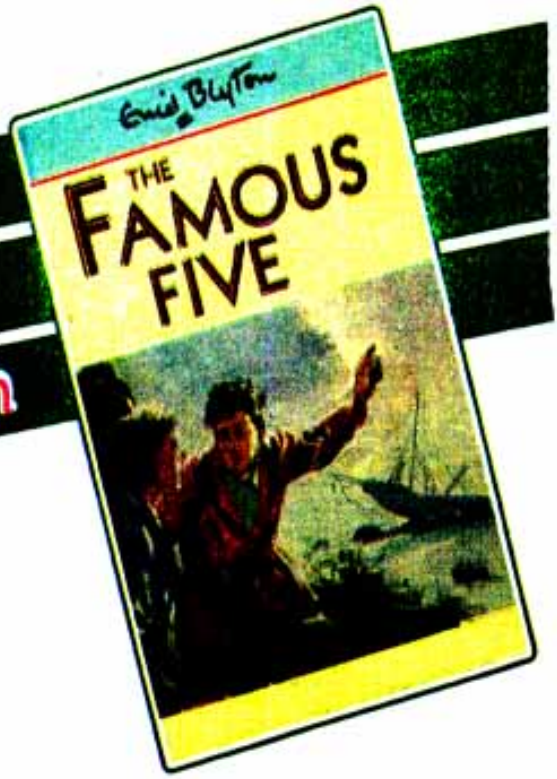
Lo

Grandmawor

The Five and the Golden Galleon

During the holidays I read 'The Five and the Golden Galleon' by Claude Voilier. This book is a continuation of the original 'Famous Five' series written by one of the most loved children's author, Enid Blyton. This adventure and mystery novel features four children - Julian, Dick, George, Anne and their dog, Timothy.

The novel begins with the five visiting Kirrin Island during their holidays. For the first few days it is fun but very soon they are caught in a storm during which Dick spots an outline of a massive structure in the sea. After the storm, the five row to the spot where Dick had seen the structure and they are surprised to see a ship wreck in the sea bed. Julian and George dive into the sea and find gold ingots inside the wreck. The excited children rush to the police station and inform about their amazing find. However by the time the police arrive the Ingots are gone and the children decide to investigate. It is adventure time from here as they plunge head long and solve the mystery.



I liked this book a lot as it was very thrilling and exciting, taking us on a wonderful adventure ride. I admire the five who encounter various dangers but always manage to handle the situation calmly, without losing their head. I am eagerly looking forward to reading the whole series!

- Pallav Agarwal, Std.IX,
Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Unchahar

My Pet Robot

STORY: Ajay Ashok
Std.XI, St.Michaels,
Chennai
Illustration: Lalithaa

What have I done? My robot is lost for ever now!
Ahaaa! You are mine now.
Suddenly...
Chethan! Enough of this. Go and do your home work.
Please Papa! Don't throw it away, Papa!
Outside...
I wonder how much I can get for this?
The rag picker boy picked it up and decided to sell it at a waste paper mart.
The owner of the waste paper mart bought the robot and in turn sold it to a watch repair shop, where it was kept on display. And when Ajay saw it...
Papa look! My toy kitten! We'll buy it please!
Ajay was overjoyed to get back his robotic kitten...
Kitty, I shall never part with you again.

Dear Gokulam, I am your regular reader. My favourites are Misty Heights, Tongue Twisters and Pyramid Puzzle. The 'Harry Potter' special was fantastic.

- Tilak Chhatra, Std.X,
Municipal High School,
Sambalpur

I liked the 'Travel' special issue as I learnt about many new places. I was also happy to read my contribution in the March issue. Thank you Gokulam. You are my best friend.

- B.Ramya,
Std.VIII, Mysore
West Lions
Sevaniketan
School, Mysore

Misty Heights

Gokulam is a fantastic magazine. The April issue on travel was amazing. I came to know about many beautiful places. Thanks for providing such a wonderful magazine.

- G.Sanjana Sharon, Std.IX,
St.Joseph's MHSS,
Madurai

I am a great fan of Gokulam as there are many interesting article stories and activities. I was also ver proud to receive my prize money fo my art work. My parents were ver happy about it too.

- S.Sreeram, Std.V, KV
Coimbator

I have been reading Gokulan regularly for the past three years an simply love it. I like the serial 'Mist Heights' a lot and eagerly awai the magazine every month t read the next chapter.

-Neha Pravin Deshpand
Std.VIII, Vijay Naga
High Schoo
Mumba

Gokulam is my favourit magazine and I liked each and ever page of the 'Travel' special. especially enjoyed Misty Heights Eco-Tourism, Cook it Up and the story 'A Journey to Learn'. Reading Gokulam is a great experience!

- Lilabati Mohanta, Std.X
St.Francis Sr. Sec. School
Chhatisgarh

I am a huge fan of Gokulam and

st love it. The new serial story Misty Heights' is simply superb. ease publish more such stories.

- Sushmitha.S.Dixith, Std.X, S.V.E.P.HS, Bengalooru

The Travel edition of Gokulam lped me a lot in planning my cation. Could you please publish 'Science and Bio-technology' ecial?

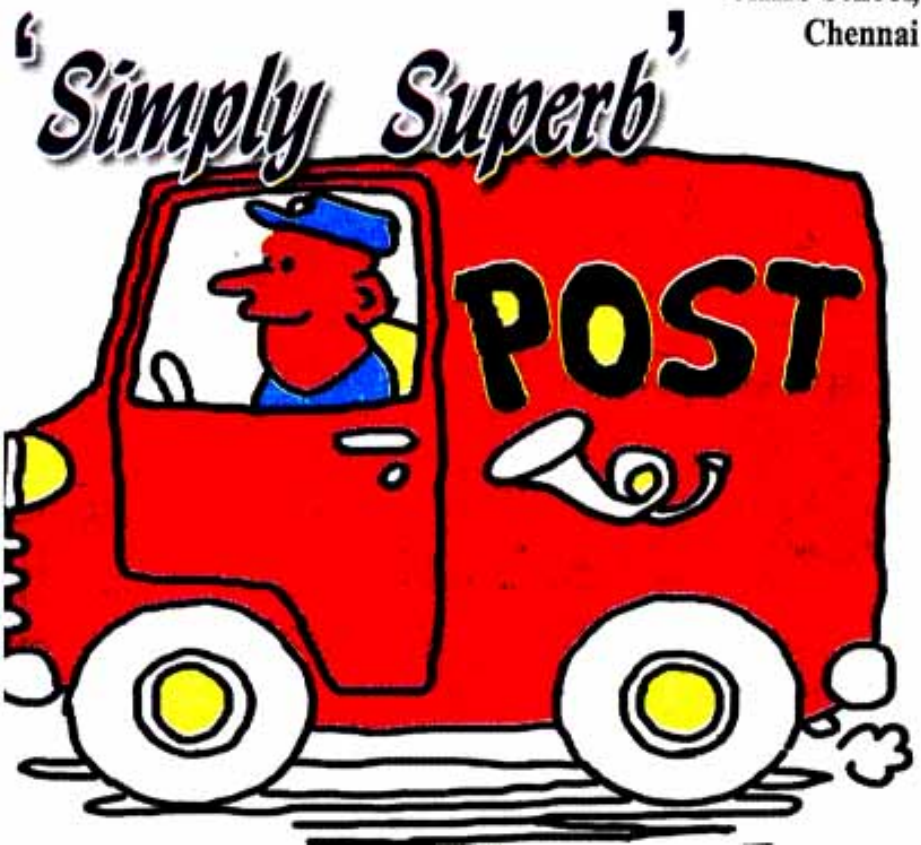
- Adarsh.S.Srivatsa, Std.VII, Vijaya Vitthala Vidya Shala, Mysore

I am a regular reader of okulam. I liked the article on 'Hampi' in the Travel special. It was very interesting and I thank the editorial team for it. Why don't you do a series on great personalities in our history?

- M.Nagarjun, Std.IX, Palaniammal MHSS, Erode

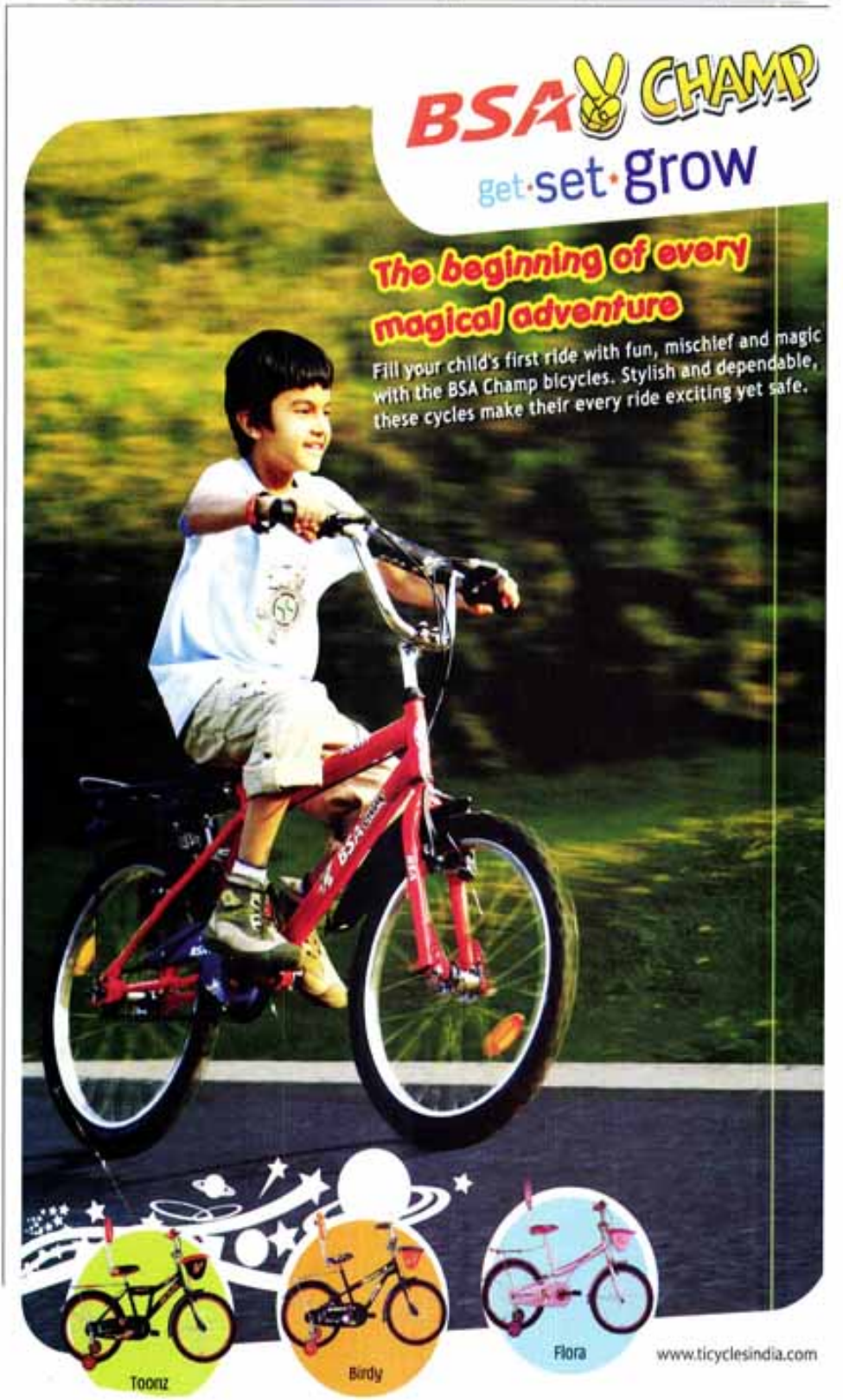
The May issue of Gokulam was awesome. I love humour and am fond of making everyone laugh. So, I just loved the 'Humour' special. The article on Charlie Chaplin was very informative. 'Down Humour Lane' was rib-tickling. Great work Gokulam!

- Varshini Venkatesh, Std.IX, St.Dominic's AIHS School, Chennai



BILLU

Concept, Pictures
PILLA

S.Pravallika Narayan,
Std: IX, Atomic Energy Central School, Hyderabad.

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